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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 17, 1943

Dear Umphrey:

What has been done in the ~~matter~~ matter? Will you write me, please. What developments in the other situation? Willkie is going to be the man, in my opinion, and I can promise you good cooperation from that quarter if you think it would be helpful.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Harry S. Truman".

Dr. Umphrey Lee,
Southern Methodist University,
Dallas, Texas.



62-74466-59 4th

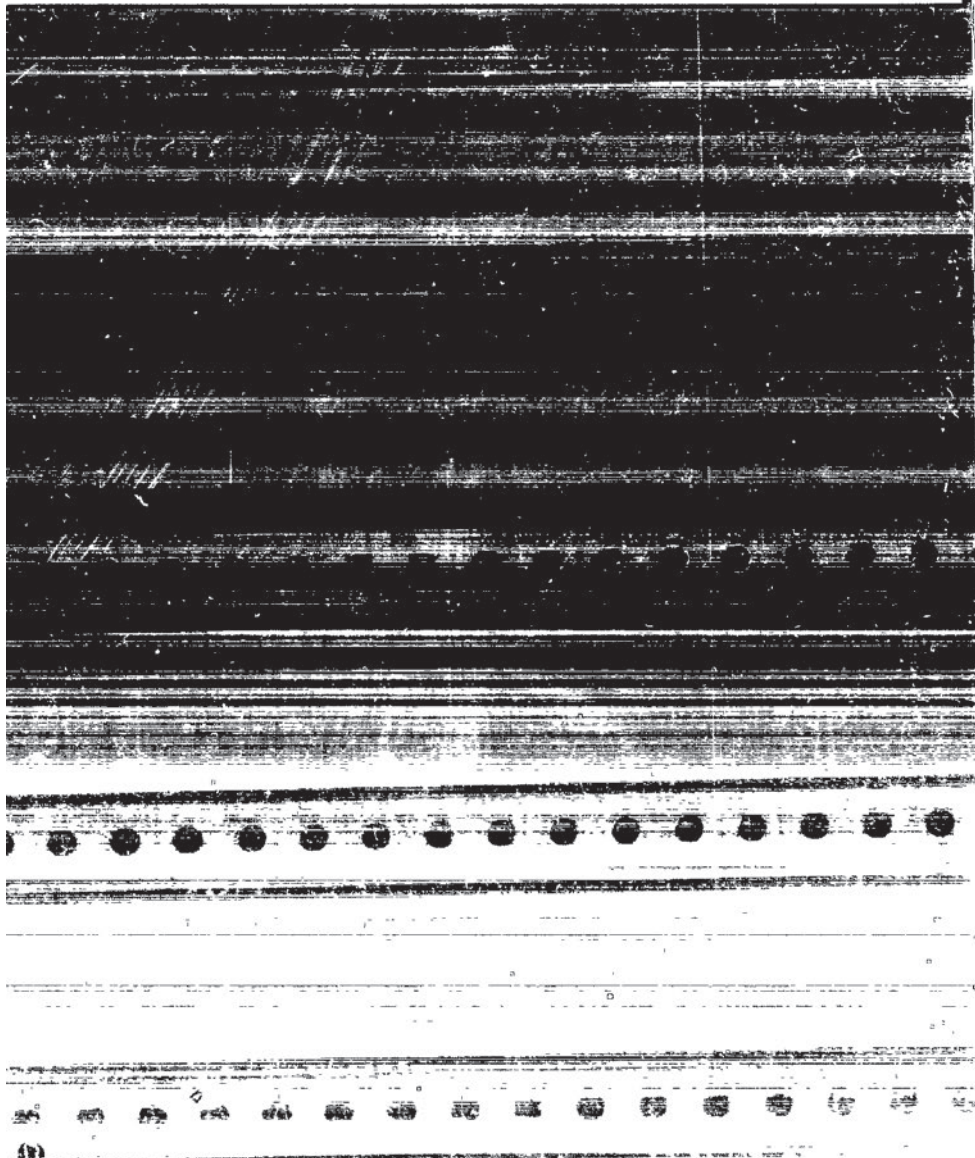
Yes, I
Can't deny
Paco 3/2 (see page 12-13)

"Don't deny, don't admit"
"Inclined to believe it did not
send it"

See page 16

"Presumed did"

(See page 16)



62-74466-59

Montgomery
Ref. 1/1/1944
Ref. 1/1/1944
Ref. 1/1/1944
Ref. 1/1/1944

Yes
see page 27

Yes

See Page 27

Original & copies of
transcript of statement taken
from Leo N. Briggs 11/17/44
by DML & JKM

62-74466-59

January 17, 1944

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Ladd:

Mr. Briggs, as to the question of the Hopkins' letter and before talking to you, we wanted you, of course, to be aware of the fact that any statement that you might make to us can be used against you at any time in the future. So you can, or cannot, make any statement, as you so desire. That is your privilege, of course. We want to point out to you that we are concerned with the letter itself and are not concerned with politics or any politicians who might be involved. With that in mind, we would like to ask you to tell us what you know about this so-called Hopkins' letter.

Mr. Briggs replied that he would be glad to tell everything he knew about the letter.

Mr. Ladd inquired whether Mr. Briggs would have any objection to a stenographer taking down the discussion and Mr. Briggs stated that he certainly would have no objection.

(The stenographer then entered the room).

Mr. Briggs:

Back in 1940 I was asked by Mr. Frank Gannett of Rochester to come to his home in Rochester and discuss the proposition of doing some work for him in the northwest in behalf of his candidacy for the nomination. I came to Rochester and there met Mr. Sparks for the first time. That -- I would say -- was about some time around the first of February, 1940. Mr. Sparks, Mr. Gannett and I were alone in the house. We had dinner and discussed the political situation and I was invited to go to New York with Sparks on the afternoon plane and there perhaps complete arrangements for doing some work. I had in St. Paul a Legislative Bureau with about ten people in my employ during legislative years, and it was proposed that I turn the organization over to Mr. Gannett's candidacy. I went back to New York and in the course of time I took over this work -- that is, for the duration, convention to be held in June, and promised about three or four months active work for my small group. We came

62 - 74762 - 51

mb

to Philadelphia in June -- I don't imagine you are interested at all in the Willkie end of this thing?

Mr. Ladd:

We are interested primarily in what you know with reference to this Hopkins' letter.

Mr. Briggs:

I presume that I should explain that the reason my name was ever mentioned in connection with it in the first place, I think, was in the Chicago Sun, in which it was said in some gossip column about Washington that I was supposed to have written some of this book by Mr. Sparks. As a matter of fact, the only writing that I had to do with it -- that I had to do in connection with it -- was represented by my own bulletins, which I had printed and circulated after my return to St. Paul from the Philadelphia Convention, in response to which I was called to Washington some time in 1941 -- January or February, 1941, before the Federal Grand Jury. That was the hearing on the Hatch Act, as you remember. Then Drew Pearson made a statement to the effect that the book had been written by Spike Mowius of Senator Nye's office and myself. As to Mr. Mowius, I don't know, but as to me, I know it wasn't true because I wilfully stayed away from any political contacts because of the Secretary. Then about six weeks ago in a Sunday Times Herald Walter Trohan, whom I do not know, but who, I understand, is a Chicago Tribune reporter, wrote a long story which started on the front page, in which he tried to make the point that the Secretary had become involved in this Hopkins' letter, and had somehow run across it and had employed me to go some place to get it. It was a fantastic story and I was very much upset about it. I called long distance and got hold of Mr. Sparks.

Mr. Ladd:

About when was this?

Mr. Briggs:

This was either five or six weeks ago next Sunday. It is easy enough to date it because it was a day before the printers' strike.

Mr. Ladd:

Where did you call him from?

Mr. Briggs:

I called him from my home, Temple 8038. I said to him - "What are you trying to do -- are you trying to get my job down here?" He said - "Why?" I replied -- "Well, you go out and buy a Times Herald this morning and read the Walter Trohan article that starts on the first page, and then call me back, which he did. Mind you, I had -- previous to that he had been coming through Washington at frequent intervals and used to call me up. On two or three occasions he came over to the office to see me. Once I had him out to the house to dinner. On one such occasion at the office, he showed me the copy of his book, that is, the manuscript, but this did not include the Hopkins' letter. It was, and because it was pretty much of a rehash of what I had written myself, it wasn't of any great interest to me.

Mr. Sparks called me back on this particular Sunday and said that he had no idea where that story originated. Well, I said, "will you please tell Mr. Trohan and anyone else who may be interested that neither the Secretary nor I had anything to do with this letter. He said, "Why, certainly", "I will make him look like nickels". I told him not to make a statement today because there is a strike on and because it wouldn't get any place and I wanted this statement to appear. I asked him, incidentally, "if it isn't any of my business, where did you get the letter?" He said - "I got it from a friend of mine in San Antonio -- I can make that clear to Trohan and the rest of this newspaper crowd". I heard no more of it. To my knowledge he did not make any statement in which he cleared up that situation and nothing further came to my attention. I reported this to the Secretary and told him in detail on the following Thursday, I think. I came down on Monday, considerably disturbed. I expected the Secretary to blow right up through the ceiling, and I heard nothing from him on Tuesday or Wednesday, and on Thursday I thought I had better mention it to him, which I did. I said - "Did you notice in the Times Herald that you and I are accused of having originated or uncovered or furnished this Hopkins' letter?" He said - "I didn't notice it - where was it?" and I told him. The Secretary said that the Times-Herald wouldn't be very flattered if they knew how little attention he pays to their paper, and said "I don't care what they say about me. That was the extent of that.

Then, sometime later, I don't remember how much later, Arthur Sears Henning had a story which was pretty much of a rewrite of that Trohan story. In the meantime, the book came out. The Secretary asked me to get him a copy and to get a copy for Archibald MacLeish, which I did. I went down to Brentanos and picked them up,

and then I told the Secretary that Sparks was coming into town every little while and asked him if he saw any objection to my seeing him if he calls me. He said "No, I don't".

I saw Sparks a couple of times in the Carroll Arms Hotel and he didn't offer any explanation of the letter. It was certainly hitting the mark, according to his estimate. I didn't ask him any particular questions about it.

I think that Sparks is pretty much obsessed with this idea of defeating Willkie at any cost and he has made some statements to me that I have reported and repeated to the Secretary, not in connection with the letter particularly but sort of indicating his whole mental attitude toward it, and I have kept in close touch with the Secretary and he with me about it. I think I saw the letter once.

Mr. Ladd:

When did you see that letter?

Mr. Briggs:

Well, as near as I can recall, it made no impression on me -- it made so little impression on me as a matter of fact I don't recall the erasures that he speaks of. I think it was sometime during November but I wouldn't swear to it.

Mr. Ladd:

Where did you see it?

Mr. Briggs:

In my office.

Mr. Ladd:

On what occasion?

Mr. Briggs:

He just came to see me - that was all.

Mr. Ladd:

This is the letter that you saw on that occasion -- copy of the letter that you saw?

gn/B

Mr. Briggs:

This is the letter I saw reproduced.

Mr. Ladd:

Did you see the original of the letter on this occasion?

Mr. Briggs:

Yes, I take it was the original?

Mr. Ladd:

Was that the first time you had seen it?

Mr. Briggs:

Yes, that was the first time that I had seen it.

Mr. Ladd:

I have

you please look at it and see if you have seen it before, Mr. Briggs.

Mr. Briggs:

No, sir.

Mr. Ladd:

Is that your handwriting?

Mr. Briggs:

No, sir.

Mr. Ladd:

Do you know whose handwriting that is?

Mr. Briggs:

No, I do not.

b3

mb

Mr. Briggs

I don't know what that refers to.

Mr. Mumford

I have here a copy of [redacted]

Did you send that wire?

b3

Mr. Briggs

I can't say. I don't know.

Mr. Mumford

I have here a copy of [redacted]

Did you write that letter?

Mr. Briggs

This is certainly a (didn't finish sentence). I certainly did not write that about the Secretary.

Mr. Ladd

That is your signature there. Is it not?

Mr. Briggs

No answer.

Mr. Ladd

Is that your signature, Mr. Briggs?

Mr. Briggs

I don't believe it is.

Mr. Ladd

How about the longhand notations at the bottom. Is that your handwriting?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

mb

Mr. Mumford:

Have you written any letters to Mr. Sparks about this matter, about the book or the letter?

Mr. Briggs:

I don't remember - I may have written him -- I haven't any recollection of anything definite.

Mr. Mumford:

With reference to the manuscript - you didn't write to him about that. Didn't you write a letter of any kind of your review of it or what you thought of it.

Mr. Briggs:

No, he was there and I told him what I thought of it.

Mr. Mumford:

I have here [REDACTED]

Have you ever seen that before?

b3

Mr. Briggs:

Oh, yes, I think Sparks asked me to write this for him. I don't remember the circumstances now. It didn't seem to me to be that far back. I think he wanted [REDACTED]

Mr. Mumford:

You wrote that letter to him at his request?

Mr. Briggs:

I think that was it -- I think he wanted to have some such letter as this because [REDACTED] at that time and he wanted to be able to show something.

Mr. Ladd:

Where was that letter prepared?

EMB

Mr. Briggs:

In my office.

Mr. Ladd:

That was prepared in your office?

Mr. Briggs:

As I recall it, it was written in my office.

Mr. Mumford:

Did you send him anything else now - do you remember - anything else having to do with the book or the letter.

Mr. Briggs:

I don't recall.

Mr. Mumford:

I have here

b3

Mr. Briggs:

What is this supposed to be?

Mr. Mumford:

Just an item about the so-called Hopkins' letter.

Mr. Mumford: Did you send him any telegrams of any kind about the letter?

Mr. Briggs:

Not that I recall. I don't recognize this memorandum.

Emb

Mr. Mumford:

I have here a copy of a telegram.

Mr. Briggs:

Oh, Lord.

Mr. Mumford:

I have here another one

b3

that you might recall in connection with that.

Mr. Briggs:

I do not recall these telegrams and I don't know what they would mean.

hnb

MR. Briggs

If I knew the source of this. I would like to know.

Mr. Ladd

You say you did not send those wires?

Mr. Briggs

I do not remember sending those wires. I don't know what I would have sent them for.

Mr. Mumford

Here is [REDACTED] A few days subsequent to those wires.

b3

Mr. Briggs

That isn't my letter.

Mr. Ladd

[REDACTED] Did you have any communications with Mr. Sparks [REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I had talked to Mr. Gannett about it. He was trying to get rid of my house in Falls Church [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

What money did he let you have?

Mr. Briggs

I think it was a matter of [REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

When did you get that?

Mr. Briggs

It is very hard for me to recall that.

Mr. Ladd

Don't you recall when you had difficulty with the house?

Mr. Briggs

I had it all through the summer. I was trying to get rid of it.

Mr. Ladd

[REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Briggs

[REDACTED]

Mr. Mumford

[REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

Don't remember.

[REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

[REDACTED] Did you ever write to him about it?

Mr. Briggs

Not that I recall.

Mr. Mumford

Going back to this particular letter just shown to you [REDACTED] what was the occasion of writing that letter?

Mr. Briggs

I didn't write this letter.

Mr. Ladd

Have you ever seen it before?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. "Just back late last night." I wasn't out of town.

Mr. Mumford

Here's another [REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Briggs

Now. That is not my signature. I will tell you that right now. That is not my signature.

Mr. Ladd

Have you any knowledge where such a letter as that might have come from?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. I have not.

Mr. Ladd

Does your secretary sign any of your mail for you?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Mumford

I have another [REDACTED]

b3

[REDACTED] Do you have any knowledge [REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

I would never [REDACTED]
I am wholly at a loss.

Mr. Ladd

You have no knowledge of that letter?

Emb

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Mumford

[REDACTED]

b3

[REDACTED] Can you tell us
what that would be about?

Mr. Briggs

I don't know [REDACTED]

Mr. Mumford

Did you have any correspondence with anybody like that
in connection with any of the other material you furnished Sparks?

Mr. Briggs

No. I don't know any [REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

Is that your signature on there?

Mr. Briggs

Wait a minute. I am trying to think what that might
refer to.

Mr. Mumford

Didn't you say a while ago that you furnished Mr. Sparks
some bulletins and other documents?

Mr. Briggs

Yes Sir, I did.

Mr. Mumford

[REDACTED]

b3

gmf

Mr. Briggs

There was [REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Ladd

Such documentation as you got [REDACTED]
are sure wasn't from [REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

No. [REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

How about [REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

Mr. Ladd

Is that your signature on that letter?

Mr. Briggs

I can't very well deny that one. No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

Do you have any recollection having written that letter?
The reason for it?

Mr. Briggs

Nothing stands out. That was about the time that I was
struggling with my house, I can say that.

Mr. Mumford

What is the reference in there to [REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Briggs

I don't know. [REDACTED]

MB

Mr. Ladd

Subsequent to [redacted]

b3

Mr. Briggs

I presume it was.

Mr. Ladd

Do you have any independent recollection of that?

Mr. Briggs

No, I haven't. That is all very vague.

Mr. Ladd

b3

Mr. Briggs

No my recollection is [redacted]

Mr. Mumford

I have here [redacted]

Mr. Briggs

That isn't even signed.

Mr. Mumford

It refers to various other matters that are mentioned in these others.

Mr. Briggs

I presume [redacted]

Mr. Ladd

Did you write that letter or have it written?

Mr. Briggs

It does not..... Umph!

gmb

Mr. Ladd

Was that letter written by you, Mr. Briggs?

Mr. Briggs

I don't recall it. There are a lot of things in there.

Mr. Ladd

You would recall it wouldn't you?

Mr. Briggs

I certainly should.

Mr. Ladd

Could anybody else have known some of those things in there?

Mr. Briggs

Oh yes. I don't think any of it is ... (didn't finish sentence)

Mr. Mumford

You say

b3

Mr. Briggs

No. I don't.

I don't know who that is.

Mr. Mumford

I have here

Do you remember

Mr. Briggs

Mr. Ladd

Do you recall sending that wire?

GB

Mr. Briggs

I presume I did.

Mr. Mumford

Does that wire refresh your recollection of the sending of that letter that you looked at prior to that?

Mr. Briggs

No. Sir.

Mr. Ladd

You deny [REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Briggs

I don't deny it but I don't admit it because there are several things in there that just don't make sense to me.

Mr. Ladd

You can't say whether you did or did not send such a letter?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. I am inclined to believe that I did not send it.

Mr. Mumford

b3

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] *Did you*
write that letter?

Mr. Briggs

I certainly did not write that letter.

Mr. Ladd

Is that your signature?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. It is a poor imitation of it.

Mr. Ladd

With reference to [] how accurate is that?

b3

Mr. Briggs

I don't know those figures at all.

Mr. Ladd

Is it accurate or inaccurate?

Mr. Briggs

Its inaccurate.

Mr. Ladd

You say you never wrote that letter?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

Have you ever seen that letter?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.....that Willkie matter, I don't know what they are talking about on that.

Mr. Ladd

Do you recall any telephone conversation with Mr. Sparks relative to this?

Mr. Briggs

Np Sir.

Mr. Ladd

Did you have such a telephone conversation?

Mr. Briggs

About the Willkie matter? No.

Mr. Ladd

Around the 6th of November?

Mr. Ladd

Is that your telephone number and your address?

Mr. Briggs

Yes Sir. Yes Sir, but those are no figures of mine.

Mr. Ladd

Did you write the letter?

Mr. Briggs

I will say No Sir. I did not.

Mr. Ladd

You are sure it was not written by you?

Mr. Briggs

Never seen it before -- not my figures; it is not my signature.

Mr. Mumford

Going back a few days, [REDACTED]

b3

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Did you send that wire?

Mr. Briggs

I don't remember that, Sir.

Mr. Ladd

Do you recall having sent that wire?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

Would you say you did not send it?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir, I didn't send it.

Mr. Ladd

You did not?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Mumford

Have you ever seen it before or a copy of it?

Mr. Briggs

No. I can't say that I have.

Mr. Mumford

I have here [REDACTED]

b3

[REDACTED] Did
[REDACTED] you write that letter?

Mr. Briggs

That is not my signature. I can tell you that. That
is the most incredible thing [REDACTED]

Mr. Mumford

[REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

[REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

You did not have? Where is [REDACTED]

hmb

Mr. Briggs

My wife has [REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Ladd

What [REDACTED] is that?

Mr. Briggs

[REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

Where do you carry [REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

[REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

You did not have any difficulty with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Briggs

Not to my knowledge. No Sir. As I say [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Ladd

Have you ever seen that letter before?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

Is that your signature?

Mr. Briggs

No, that is not my signature.

Mr. Ladd

Could anybody have signed it for you?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

Mr. Ladd

You are sure of that?

Mr. Briggs

I am sure of it.

Mr. Mumford

I have here [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] Did you write that letter?

Mr. Briggs

Again I say that is not my signature. I didn't know there was [REDACTED] I never saw it or heard anything about it. I certainly do deny that.

Mr. Ladd

Did you ever see the letter?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. Silly thing. You know. Have you talked to the Secretary.

Mr. Ladd

No.

Mr. Briggs

The Secretary is of the opinion that this is one good effort of the Times-Herald and its associates to get him involved. With one or two exceptions here, these are not my letters.

hnb

Mr. Briggs

I have never talked to the Secretary about this letter except after he read it.

Mr. Ladd

We are not interested in the accuracy in the material in the letter, we want to know whether you wrote the letter.

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. I did not.

Mr. Ladd

The signature of the last letter is not yours?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. It is not. I will swear to that.

Mr. Mumford

I have here another matter now -- [redacted]

b3

[redacted] Did you send him that telegram?

Mr. Briggs

I don't see how I could have sent it. I wonder if that wasn't the story that came out in the Times-Herald and I called him about it. (Asks for calendar) I don't remember. I don't know what story it would refer to anyway.

Mr. Mumford

Here is a photographic copy of [redacted]

Mr. Briggs

I never do it that way.

Mr. Ladd

That being the same date as the reference to the newspaper article, I wondered if it would refresh your memory/

lmb

Mr. Briggs

No Sir. I don't know what could have been put in

b3

Mr. Ladd

Did you at any time send him a clipping out of the paper, say the clipping you called him about.

Mr. Briggs

No. He bought a copy of the paper and called me back.

Mr. Ladd

You did not send the wire

Mr. Briggs

Don't know what that refers to. I haven't the faintest recollection what kind of a story it was.

Mr. Ladd

You don't recall talking to him on the phone on that occasion?

Mr. Briggs

- No Sir.

Mr. Mumford

I have here a copy of

Mr. Briggs

My Golly. They were certainly making appeals. Wonder if they got it all.

Mr. Mumford

That would appear to be for delivery for transmittal.

Mr. Briggs

That is about the time of

GB

Mr. Mumford

Do you recall sending such a message?

Mr. Briggs

I don't recall it. I may have sent it because it was just about that time [REDACTED]

b3

Mr. Mumford

I have here [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Did you send that message?

Mr. Briggs

That might just as well be in code.

Mr. Ladd

It is charged to your telephone.

Mr. Briggs

Falls Church. Easy enough for me to check back.

Mr. Ladd

Don't you recall having sent such a wire?

Mr. Briggs

I don't know what it means. I don't know what that telegram means.

Mr. Ladd

Would you say you never sent that wire?

Mr. Briggs

I would say I did not.

Mr. Ladd

Would you be apt to pay a monthly bill on your telephone for telegrams that you did not send?

GB

Mr. Briggs

Well, my wife does not check her slips. She pays the amount and lets it go at that, but I certainly will look back and see how many of these things we have paid for.

Mr. Ladd

You would say that you never sent that wire?

Mr. Briggs

I would say that I never did.

Mr. Mumford

Sometime ago I handed you a letter

b3

Mr. Briggs

No.

Mr. Ladd

You never received such a wire?

Mr. Briggs

No.

Mr. Ladd

If Western Union delivered such a wire to your house would it have been called to your attention?

Mr. Briggs

Oh sure.

Mr. Ladd

Did you ever receive such a wire?

Mr. Briggs

I have no recollection of it.

Mr. Ladd

You have no recollection of it or would you say you never received it?

Mr. Briggs

I would say I have no recollection of it.

Mr. Ladd

If you had received such a wire and did not know what the content was about, would you have contacted Sparks to ask what it was about?

Mr. Briggs

I don't think I have ever called him about such a telegram.

Mr. Ladd

You would remember if you had, wouldn't you?

Mr. Briggs

I should. As a matter of fact, I have had very few contacts with Sparks personally or by phone. Certainly not as many as are indicated in these letters.

Mr. Mumford

I have here a photograph of 

b3


Did you send that wire?

Mr. Briggs

No Sir.

GB

GB

2) Mr. Mumford: I have here a copy of an item [redacted]

[redacted]
Did you send that message.

Mr. Briggs: [redacted] There is some more of that printing.

b3

Mr. Mumford: Did you ever see it. Did you send it.

Mr. Briggs: No.

Mr. Mumford: I have here another item [redacted]

[redacted]
Did you send that message.

Mr. Briggs: Yes.

Mr. Mumford: How did you send that - did you type it out and send it to Western Union.

Mr. Briggs: I do not remember. I think I probably dictated it to my girl as I do most of those things.

Mr. Mumford: How did you get it to Western Union.

Mr. Briggs: The stenographer calls for a messenger who calls for it.

Mr. Mumford: I have here another item [redacted]

b3

[redacted]
Did you send that message.

Mr. Briggs: Yes sir.

Mr. Mumford: Was that handled in the same manner.

Mr. Briggs: I presume it was.

Mr. Mumford: Was that your customary way of sending telegrams, putting them on note paper and then calling for a messenger to take them over.

Mr. Briggs: Yes.

hnb

Mr. Mumford: Did these last two messages have anything to do with this book.

Mr. Briggs: No sir.

Mr. Ladd: Would you have typed it yourself.

Mr. Briggs: No I would not have typed that.

Mr. Ladd: Do you type any of your own letters or correspondence.

Mr. Briggs: Very seldom.

Mr. Mumford: Do you have a typewriter.

Mr. Briggs: A sort of a one.

Mr. Ladd: I want to show you again the original so-called Harry Hopkins letter on the White House stationery. Did you write that document.

Mr. Briggs: I have never seen it.

Mr. Ladd: Is that signature yours.

Mr. Briggs: No it is not.

Mr. Ladd: Did you have a telephone conversation with Mr. Sparks during September or at any time at which time you advised him or inquired of him whether he would be interested in a letter which had been written by Harry Hopkins. Did you make such a statement.

Mr. Briggs: I had no knowledge of any such letter. The answer is no.

Mr. Ladd: Did you at any time tell him you had knowledge of such a letter.

Mr. Briggs: No, I did not. I had no knowledge of it. I know that the story is around that the Secretary and I had knowledge of it.

Mr. Ladd: Did you tell him it would be necessary to go to Dallas to get such a letter. Did he give you any money for such a trip. Did you go to Dallas on such a trip.

Mr. Briggs: No.

Mr. Ladd: Did you go to any place in Texas.

Mr. Briggs: I have never been in Texas.

Mr. Ladd: Did you know Mr. Umphrey Lee.

Mr. Briggs: No. I have never met him.

LB

Mr. Ladd: Did you know a [redacted]

Mr. Briggs: No sir.

Mr. Ladd: Have you ever met or had any dealings with [redacted]

Mr. Briggs: No.

Mr. Ladd: In the original Hopkins letter there is a word scratched out in the first line. Did you at any time have a conversation with Mr. Sparks with reference to scratching out any portion of that letter.

Mr. Briggs: I know nothing of that letter.

Mr. Ladd: At the time you saw the original letter, shown to you by Sparks in his office, do you remember the word was scratched out.

Mr. Briggs: No, I do not remember.

Mr. Mumford: Would you have remembered if there had been scratching out or blotting.

Mr. Briggs: If I saw the original, it made very little impression on me. It was a dirty, much folded, rubbed out affair which did not impress me.

Mr. Mumford: But if there was a blot, would not you have asked about it.

Mr. Briggs: That would sound like a logical question to ask.

Mr. Mumford: Do you remember whether there was a blot on it.

Mr. Briggs: As I said first, I do not even remember the erasures he talked about.

Mr. Mumford: Speaking of the erasures, have you discussed them with Mr. Sparks.

Mr. Briggs: No sir.

Mr. Mumford: Have you discussed this matter with Mr. Sparks at all.

Mr. Briggs: One night a couple of weeks ago my daughter and I dropped in on him (at the Carroll Arms). I do not remember just when it was and just stayed a few minutes and maybe the letter was discussed.

Mr. Mumford: Since all this discussion had come up, did you question the authenticity of it.

Mr. Briggs: No, I did not inquire of him because I did not think it was any of my business. He made a lot of funny statements to me which I reported to the Secretary. For instance he (Sparks) said he was being tailed, his brief

6

Mr. Briggs: (Continued) case had been rifled two or three times, his room had been broken into, his telephone tapped, and when he came back (I remember the last time I saw him was the day after his meeting in Chicago whenever that was), I think it was before the Grand Jury, he called me at my office and wanted to know if I was busy and I told him my daughter was with me and we were going to meet Mrs. Briggs. I told him this and he said "drop in for a few minutes." We went to Carroll Arms and he was out in front and he had his key in the palm of his hand and he shook hands and passed me the key and said "I will be right up." I told him I had to get away as I had to meet Mrs. Briggs. I went upstairs and left the door open and in a few minutes he came in. He said when I left the Sherman Hotel this morning there was written on my bill the word "vault". He said the cashier said "Just a minute, I will get you your money." He said "I have no money, but the cashier said "Oh yes, you have money in the vault." He said "I have not." He said the cashier showed him a box full of money. He said I just walked away from it and told the cashier it did not belong to him. He said when I got here (Carroll Arms) a woman had paid \$4.00 down on a room for me. I suspected Sparks had gone off the beam so that night I called Mr. Guinet at Rochester, but before I got him, Sparks called me at the house about half past ten. He said where will you be about twelve or one tomorrow and I said in my office. He said well if you should not feel very well you might call me at my residence. If I did not know Sparks was not drinking, I would have said he had too much. I called Mr. Guinet and told him that I believed that Sparks thought more of him than any man on earth and I said I wish you would call Sparks at his hotel and see what impression you get of him. I do not think the man (Sparks) is well and then call me back, which he did. He called me back at my home at 11:30. He said I have talked to Nels and he seemed calm enough. He said I know he has been carrying a load and he might be unduly nervous, but I think he is all right. I asked him if he thought Mrs. Sparks should be called and he said no.

Mr. Ladd: The call to Mr. Guinet was made from your home.

Mr. Briggs: Yes. Then the night after the Grand Jury hearing, I would say about 9:30, Spike Movis, Secretary to Gerald Nye, said a lawyer called and said to tell me to call Sparks in New York between 11 and 12. I called Sparks and he said everybody is lying down there. The night before at the hotel he asked me if I knew whether or not Hopkins and Rosenman were trying to get Ickes and I told him not to my knowledge. I knew of no reason. Then when he called me, he said those two men that I told you about last night are going to get your boss. I spoke to the Secretary about that and he said I have never had any trouble with Rosenman. Waving aside all question whether Hopkins likes me or whether I like him, I have never had any words with Sam Rosenman or any reason to believe he was not friendly.

Mr. Ladd: On the occasion of your call to Sparks in New York, did he mention anything about the Grand Jury.

Mr. Briggs: He said I cannot talk. I would be in contempt.

Mr. Mumford: In these various discussions with him, did you discuss the erasures.

Mr. Briggs: There was just a smudge, if it was the letter I saw.

Mr. Mumford: No readable writing.

Mr. Briggs: No.

Mr. Ladd: Did you ask him what had been there.

Mr. Mumford: Was not this before any newspaper reports.

Mr. Briggs: Yes this was sometime in November.

Mr. Ladd: Do you recall whether you had any discussion with him.

Mr. Briggs: It was sometime after I guess. It was this same day that he told me about the money in the vault in the Sherman Hotel and he told me how he had turned the original letter over to someone by the name of Keeler with the request that he try by use of powder or something of the sort to bring out this erasure.

Mr. Ladd: When did he tell you about this.

Mr. Briggs: Following his Chicago meeting.

Mr. Mumford: Who is Keeler.

Mr. Briggs: I do not know. Apparently an engraver or someone in the printing business in Chicago.

Mr. Mumford: Did he get any results on it.

Mr. Briggs: He said Keeler brought it back and charged him \$50.00 for the information that the paper was so hard and the impression so soft and he did not get any information.

Mr. Ladd: On the occasion when you saw this letter for the first time in November, did you endeavor to explain to Mr. Sparks in any way what this erased writing might have been originally.

Mr. Briggs: I did not know anything about it.

Mr. Ladd: Then you did not have any such discussion with him.

Mr. Briggs: No sir. How could I have told him what it was or what it was purported to be when I did not know. I know nothing about that letter. If I saw the original, I am not clear on that. It was a dirty, much folded paper which did not impress me and what the erasures were I do not recall. I had no discussion with him about it because I was not particularly interested in it. The

(C)
Mr. Briggs: (Continued)

Secretary had made it very clear to me that we were not to become involved in any political campaign.

Mr. Mumford: When was that?

Mr. Briggs: That has been a standing rule every time we were discussing politics.

Mr. Ladd: Earlier we showed you some letters, a couple of which you said you did write. Look at this one [redacted] I believe you said that was your signature.

Mr. Briggs: Yes.

Mr. Ladd: Do you recall how that letter was prepared. Did you type that yourself or dictate it.

b3

Mr. Briggs: I dictated it. I do not remember to whom because I have changed stenographers three or four times in the last six months. I could not tell you off hand which one it was.

Mr. Ladd: This letter [redacted] on which you said appears your signature.

Mr. Briggs: That "Mrs. Stevenson" puzzles me. The figures do not add up either, but it is darn good. I do not think I could write like that,

Mr. Ladd: In view of the question as to the handwriting and signatures, would you have any objection to giving us specimens of your handwriting.

Mr. Briggs: No.

Mr. Mumford: I have another item or two which we might as well check.

Mr. Briggs: I would much rather give a handwriting specimen when I am not so nervous, but I will be perfectly willing to come down here.

Mr. Ladd: We are very anxious to get this matter cleared up, as I feel you should be.

Mr. Briggs: I am very anxious to do that, but this is my first contact with the FBI, and I do not see why I could not -----

Mr. Ladd: We would appreciate it if you would give us some of your handwriting at this time.

Mr. Mumford: I note in the book a section on the Willkie trip. I have here an item [redacted] " Did you send that letter. The envelope is attached. b3

Mr. Briggs: What is all this about.

eb

Mr. Mumford: The Willkie bomber flight mentioned in the book.

Mr. Briggs: No. I never wrote this.

Mr. Mumford: Do you know where it came from.

Mr. Briggs: I have only one guess and that is Spike Movis.

Mr. Mumford: Did you discuss with him the bomber flight about the time you wrote the letter about reviewing the manuscript.

Mr. Briggs: I do not remember whether that was in it. My recollection is that he referred the manuscript to me particularly with reference to the Taft and Glen Frank parts of it.

Mr. Ladd: In connection with an examination of fingerprints which were found on the originals of the various letters shown to you, will you let us take some fingerprints for comparison.

Mr. Briggs: Yes. I will have my fingerprints taken now.

EMB

MR. LADD:

The original letter that we have shown you with reference to this Hopkins matter which is allegedly signed by Hopkins you said you saw for the first time when Sparks showed it to you in your office in November.

MR. BRIGGS:

Yes, I think it was in November.

MR. LADD:

You did not write that document.

MR. BRIGGS:

No Sir, I did not.

MR. LADD:

DO you know who did?

MR. BRIGGS:

No, I haven't the faintest ~~idea~~ knowledge.

MR. LADD:

Did you see the letter other than this one instance?

MR. BRIGGS:

No.

MR. LADD:

The signature on the letter you say is not your handwriting.

MR. BRIGGS:

No, I never saw Mr. Hopkins signature.

MR. LADD:

You deny having had a conversation with Mr. Sparks having telephoned him and trying to inform him you knew of such a letter and asking him if he was interested in it.

MR. BRIGGS:

Yes, I deny it.

MR. LADD:

You deny that you ever took a trip to Dallas for Mr. Sparks for the purpose of obtaining such a letter.

MR. BRIGGS:

Yes

MR. LADD:

You deny that Mr. Sparks ever paid \$125 for you to take such a trip.

MR. BRIGGS:

I do.

MR. LADD:

You deny having given this letter to Mr. Sparks.

MR. BRIGGS:

Yes sir, I do.

MR. LADD:

Is there any other statement you would care to make to us with reference to the entire matter we have discussed here this afternoon?

MR. BRIGGS:

No Sir.

MR. LADD:

You've explained your part in the transaction in so far as you were involved in any way at all? It's all been the truth. There is nothing that you've held out? Nothing further you desire to tell us?

MR. BRIGGS:

No sir.

MR. LADD:

I would like to have this transcript of this written up so you can look it over this afternoon, have you sign it for us, of course if you will.

gmb

MR. BRIGGS:

This afternoon?

MR. LADD:

It will be practically through in the next few minutes.
You have no objection to signing it, to swearing to the accuracy
of all the statements contained in our statement and you have nothing
further you would like to add to it.

MR. BRIGGS:

No sir, I do not.

MR. LADD:

You prefer not to have your fingerprints taken at this time
inasmuch as you say you have a set on file with the Civil Service
Commission.

MR. BRIGGS:

I am perfectly willing to have you check with them. I can't
explain my reaction, the way I feel about having them taken here.

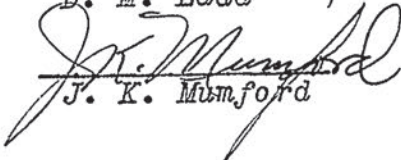
MR. LADD:

Of course, we don't want you to if you don't want it.

I have read the above questions and answers and the statement is
correct in all respects.

Witnesses:

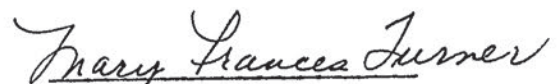

D. M. Ladd


J. K. Mumford

Signed


George Briggs

Subscribed to and sworn before me on this
seventeenth day of January, Nineteen hundred and
forty-four.


Notary Public

mb

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1662132-000

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Edw. J. Hoover
ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED
task,
the old World War Slacker, J. Bri-
cker who wrote, that Hopkins
letter, after the dirty remark he
passed in Detroit, at a Youngs
meeting, we will put Hopkins
into oblivion, where there's
smoke there's fire, the hypocrite
posing as a minister, to avoid
combat duty, since when is a
one horse shyster lawyer, quali-
fied to be a chaplain, all other
slackers go to jail, for the same
offence, including Jehovah
witness, he has the nerve to
chase around the country, trying
to make himself popular
with his foul mouth oratory

ought to make him Pres of the firs
club, a hypocrite is a deceiver, a deai
ver, is only a camouflage, for a
liar, even ashamed to show his
face, at American Legion Convention
for fear of being quizzed, about his record
its no secret here, all our papers
wrote about him, for fear of being
defeated, for 4th term as Gov. he
scrammed for the Pres, he's about
as popular in his home town as
a snowball in hell it takes
trash like him to hurl out slurs
& insults, but big men to laugh &
ignore, the files can yell my
country, but he never, turned a
hand to defend it, he needs
a mascot, in his town, nobody
will have a chance to ask ques
tions, Phooey, his
supporters

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

CLM:RMB
62-74466

April 26, 1944

RECEIVED AND INDEXED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Honorable Harry I. Hopkins
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Harry:

#266586

I am returning herewith the check book, which you loaned for use in comparison of the signatures. Just as it was when it was furnished except that three of the cancelled checks have been removed so that they may be used at the trial. These are checks 10, 11, dated February 15, 1934, in the amount of \$5.00, payable to Miss Vilcek; check 12, dated August 14, 1942, in the amount of \$5.00, payable to Eastern Union; check 20, 146, dated August 16, 1942, in the amount of \$7.00, payable to Miss Vilcek. The photographs of these, which are attached to the check book, show only the dates and signatures. This is all that is shown on the negatives and all prints made from these negatives used in the case. The enlargements made in the form of cards for demonstration in court will contain only the dates and signatures. This was accomplished by inserting papers over the faces of the checks so as to blot out all except the signatures and dates. These checks and the signatures which you wrote on two sheets of paper will be used in giving the testimony if this is agreeable to you.

With best wishes and kin regards,

Sincerely,

JOSEPH ROSS

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&
INDEXED
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62-74466-292
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 27 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
APR 26 1944
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

62-74466

TO : Mr. E. P. Coffey

DATE: May 19, 1944

FROM : Mr. J. A. Martin

SUBJECT: GEORGE N. BRIGGS
HARRY L. HOPKINS, VICTIM
FORGERYALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [REDACTED]

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Acers	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Harbo	b6
Mr. Hendon	b7C
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Starke	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

For the past several days the writer has been endeavoring to contact Mr. Schweinhaut of the Department so that the exhibits to be used in this case could be discussed with him. He has been out of town.

Mr. Schweinhaut called the writer from his home on May 15, 1944, stating that he had just gotten in town and was scheduled to leave again that day for Pennsylvania where he would be for the next couple of weeks. He stated that the trial in this case had been postponed until sometime in the Fall. I told him that I would like for him to have a look at the enlarged charts which had been prepared on the evidence in this case so that the material could then be placed away and be available for the trial whenever it did come up. I told him that we had some additional known signatures of Mr. Hopkins which could be used and that three of the checks had been enlarged and that these three had been retained. He asked if the remainder of the checks were going to be returned, and I told him that we had already returned them to Mr. Hopkins. He said that this was satisfactory and that the material we had would be sufficient. He requested that I contact his associate in the Department who was participating in this trial with him, Mr. Maynard Smith, who could come up and take a look at the charts and then discuss the matter with him, Schweinhaut. I told Mr. Schweinhaut that I would send him down a confirmatory memorandum on the material as soon as Mr. Smith had taken a look at it and he stated that would be fine.

Mr. Maynard Smith of the Department came to the Laboratory on May 18, 1944, and checked the enlarged charts and discussed the case with Mr. Appel and the writer. He stated that the charts were very good and the evidence from which these charts had been prepared appeared to him to be sufficient in all respects for the trial purposes. He was very complimentary of the Bureau for the way this case was handled.

Attached hereto is a memorandum for Mr. Schweinhaut, over the Director's signature confirming the conversations described in the memorandum.

EX - 38

Enclosure

By way of summary you will recall on April 26, 1944, a letter was directed to Mr. Hopkins by the Bureau returning the check book and all of the checks except the three which are to be used in the trial of this case provided Mr. Hopkins is agreeable to the use of these three checks. These checks are numbers 1, 141, and 145, and are all inconspicuous, two being payable to his laundry woman and one to Western Union in the amount of \$9.90.

70 JUN 3 1944

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

62-74466

JAM:EHM

TO : Mr. Coffey *W* DATE: April 14, 1944

FROM : J. A. Martin

SUBJECT: George N. Briggs;
Harry L. Hopkins - Victim
Miscellaneous

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/4/85 BY

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Attached hereto is a memorandum prepared by Mr. Appel concerning the evidence in this case. The memorandum is self-explanatory. Mr. Appel states he can demonstrate to the Jury the reasons for reaching his findings using the two sheets alone, however, it would be desirable to use some of the checks if they can be used. He has picked out three checks specifically which can be used to advantage; namely, numbers 1, 141 and 145. These are described on the attached blue memorandum.

In the hope of getting better known specimens of Mr. Hopkins handwriting than those already furnished on the two pages attached hereto a letter to Mrs. Krauss, Mr. Hopkins' secretary asking for additional specimens.

INDEXED 62-74466-294

FILED JUN 2 1944

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53 JUN 2 1944

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CAA:RMB

62-74466

TO : Mr. J. A. Martin *jam*

DATE: April 12, 1944

FROM : Mr. C. A. Appel

SUBJECT: *CONFIRMING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION*
George N. Briggs; Harry L. Hopkins - Victim;
Miscellaneous.

Confirming telephone conversation. If this becomes absolutely necessary, the additional known specimens of the victim, Harry L. Hopkins, can be used alone to demonstrate the fact that the signature on the questioned letter is a forgery. These particular signatures are far from the most desirable for this purpose. They are written on two pieces of White House stationery with the White House, Washington, embossed heading. It is possible that this may raise some question concerning whether this paper is similar to the questioned. No statement has been made as to the source of this paper, and all of the testimony concerning the identification of the paper as coming from the office of Briggs has been completed and is ready for trial. The use of this stationery, therefore, simply raises an additional question which, since it involves the questions of the time when the stationery was procured and the place from which it came, may actually be not capable of solution.

The signatures are placed one after the other on the page, seven to a page, and beginning right under the letterhead. They are set in slightly from the left edge and scrawled across more than half a page for each signature. Naturally, under these conditions each of the signatures, after the first one, resembles the first. All of these signatures are considerably bigger than those on the checks, and undoubtedly it is because of the paper used. This will make it appear, if the checks should get into the case, as though Mr. Hopkins writes small in a smaller space like a check and larger when he has more adequate room as on a letter. Since there is no typing on the known specimens, these signatures are actually not comparable with the questioned signature which is written in a space set off by the ending of the letter and the typing of the address at the lower left. These signatures, being so large, and the check signatures, being so small, it is reasonable to assume that if Mr. Hopkins did sign a letter of this type his signature would be approximately the size of that on the questioned, which is between the two extremes.

Apparently, Mr. Hopkins was very careful in his preparation of these known specimens as he shaped the letters more slowly than the natural writing on the checks. In this respect, these known specimens resemble the forged signature much more than the natural writing on the checks. **RECORDED** *162-74466-294*

If possible, it is believed that at least some of the check signatures should be made available for use in the trial. In this connection, it should be remembered that these were used at the Grand Jury hearing, and any evidence used in the Grand Jury hearing in a case of this kind is quite likely to be the subject of question in the trial. In that event, considerable basis for specious but dramatic claims of mysterious withholding of information or other unfair tactics will be laid. In the meantime the charts are being prepared.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Starke	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

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rmb (5) Kels*

The checks which would be desirable to use if possible are those numbered 1, 141 and 145. The remainder of those desirable were listed in a memorandum of February 26, but these particular checks are prepared in special photographic enlargements which were used in a previous testimony.

ADDENDUM: (4-14-44) Description of checks:
Check #1 - Check dated February 15, 1943 in the amount of \$3.00, payable to Ella Wilson (this was for laundry).
Check #141 - Check dated August 14, 1943 in the amount of \$9.90 payable to Western Union.
Check #145 - Check dated August 16, 1943 in the amount of \$7.00 payable to Ella Wilson (for laundry).

These individual checks can be taken out of the check book where they are presently located without difficulty.

JAM

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

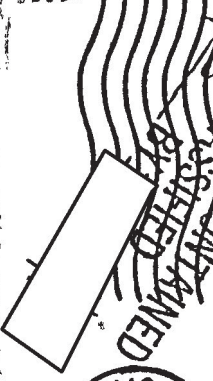
TO :

DATE:

FROM :

SUBJECT:

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Starke _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____
 Miss Gandy _____



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/88 BY 25886

Edgar J. Hoover

% J. B. D.

Washington
D.C.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TANT

DATE: April 15, 1944

FROM : MR. CUFFE

SUBJECT:

RE: GEORGE N. BRIGGS
HARRY L. HOPKINS, Victim
FORGERY

With regard to the standards of known signatures to be used in the court demonstrations of the forgery, you are advised as follows:

(1) Mr. Appel advises that if absolutely necessary he could demonstrate the forgery utilizing only the latest prepared signatures of Hopkins. He believes, however, that these prepared signatures are far from the most desirable and that better testimony can be offered if

(2) Three of the cancelled checks from the personal check book can be used in addition to the above. These checks would be check #1, dated February 15, 1943, in amount of \$3.00, payable to Ella Wilson, this was for laundered clothes; check #144 dated August 14, 1943, in the amount of \$9.90, payable to Western Union; check #145 dated August 16, 1943, in the amount of \$7.00, payable to Ella Wilson laundry. He is further of the belief that these three individual checks could be removed from the check book and used by themselves without reference to the rest of the check book.

(3) If it is still considered undesirable to use the three checks enumerated above then Mr. Appel would like to obtain some additional sample signatures of Hopkins. These are to be prepared each on a single sheet of paper as though signing a letter. In the event you feel this latter course is the best procedure - there is attached hereto a letter to Miss Krauss, Hopkins' secretary, requesting the additional signatures.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

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RECORDED JKM:PES

June 19, 1944

Honorable J. A. A. Burnquist
Attorney General
State of Minnesota
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

I am in receipt of a letter dated June 12, 1944, from Mr. T. R. Anderson of your office, making inquiry concerning Mr. George W. Briggs.

I have issued instructions that one of my representatives stationed in St. Paul call upon you or Mr. Anderson within the next few days and feel certain that he will be able to assist you.

Sincerely yours,

W. BRIGGS

cc: SAC, St. Paul (with copies of incoming)

Separate cover letter

RECEIVED
JUN 22 12 15 PM '44
FBI - ST. PAUL

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

GW

L. J. [unclear]

J. A. A. Burnquist
Attorney General
State Capitol
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

June 12, 1944

10522

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen: In re: George N. Briggs

We have recently been advised that your office may have information concerning the above named individual. We are endeavoring to obtain his present residence address, the name of his employer, and the address of his employer. We are also desirous of knowing whether or not he is presently a member of the armed forces of the United States.

If it is possible for your office to furnish us with this information we shall greatly appreciate hearing from you at an early date.

Very truly yours,

T. R. Anderson
T. R. ANDERSON
Special Assistant Attorney General
209 State Office Building

TRA ew

b6
b7C

*Let Burnquist
"St. Paul
6-19-44 JKM*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

157

62-74466-295X
F I G
32 JUL 15 1944

C. Nelson Spitzer

2
18

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York 7, New York

ABB:TW
NY 62-8036

DECLASSIFIED BY
CP 10-4-85

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

June 13, 1944

Director, FBI

RE: C. NELSON SPARKS; GEORGE M. BRIGGS
ATTENTION: MR. MUMFORD
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the telephone call on June 7, 1944, from Mr. J. MUMFORD, of the Bureau, to Assistant Special Agent in Charge T. J. DONEGAN, of the New York office.

In accordance with Mr. MUMFORD's request, a check was made at [redacted] at which time [redacted] furnished the following information:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starnes
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

b7D



COPIES DESTROYED

44 NOV 9 1964

JUL 579

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-74-1162-270
F B I
32 JUN 17 1944

(5) FCB

NY 62-8036
LETTER - DIRECTOR

June 13, 1944

b7D

The foregoing information was furnished to Mr. CUNNINGHAM of the Bureau on June 13, 1944, at which time he advised that no additional investigation as to [] background or activities was to be conducted, until so advised by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,
E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY, *ES*
SAC.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: June 13, 1944

FROM : R. H. CUNNINGHAM

RHC:PES

11:45 a.m.

SUBJECT: George N. Briggs

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Jones _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Miss Beal _____
 Miss Gandy _____

SA Berry of the New York Office telephonically referred to a conversation on June 7, 1944, between Mr. Mumford and Mr. Donegan concerning the captioned matter, at which time Mr. Donegan was advised that the Washington Field Office had been following [redacted]

[redacted] Mr. Mumford requested that New York make a check [redacted] to determine whatever information was available concerning [redacted], as the Bureau was interested in learning the purpose of [redacted]

Agent Berry now advises the New York Office made a check of [redacted] and found that [redacted] b7D

Agent Berry said they also checked [redacted] b7D

[redacted] Berry said from all indications there was nothing unusual [redacted] b7D

Mr. Berry said the above information would be confirmed by letter to the Bureau from the New York Office and no further action would be taken unless instructed to do so by the Bureau.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-74466-297

32 JUN 17 1944

57183

1-17-44

⑤ Jan

JKM:PES

~~62-74466~~

SAC, St. Paul

June 19, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GEORGE N. BRIGGS

AIR MAIL

PERSONAL ATTENTION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-1-85 BY [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Transmitted herewith are copies of a letter dated June 12, 1944, received from Mr. T. R. Anderson, Special Assistant Attorney General, 209 State Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota, and copies of my reply addressed to the Attorney General, Mr. J. A. A. Burnquist. You will note I have informed them that a representative of the Bureau will call upon one of them within the next few days. Either you or an experienced Agent should do so within the next three days and thereafter advise me by letter of the results.

You will recall you have a file on Mr. George N. Briggs in connection with the book "One Man - Wendell Willkie" written by C. Nelson Sparks. You will find considerable identifying data there.

Mr. Briggs recently moved from the Washington, D. C., area and furnished as his forwarding address 69-21 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York. It is believed he is now residing there. He is presently on liberty under bond awaiting trial in the Federal Court for the District of Columbia and this Bureau, therefore, is not maintaining any check of his exact current location. Less than a month ago he gave his occupation merely as "a writer" and so far as is known he has no regular employment. You will recall in the past he has engaged in political campaigns and has received compensation from various sources as a so-called "ghost writer" in connection with political matters. Although no check has been made, it is not believed he is a member of the armed forces because of his age and because of the outstanding felony indictment under which he is presently at liberty on bond.

For the completion of the Bureau files, it is suggested that when this matter is discussed with Mr. Burnquist or Mr. Anderson you discreetly determine the interest of the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Minnesota in this individual.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED

62-74466-298
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 12 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JKM
Ledyke
6-4-44
HKS

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 30, 1944

FROM : SAC, St. Paul

SUBJECT: GEORGE N. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Bureau File 62-74466.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/4/85 BY

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 19, 1944 concerning the above individual and pointing out that the Bureau had received an inquiry from the Attorney General of the State of Minnesota requesting information as to the present whereabouts of Mr. BRIGGS.

Mr. T. R. ANDERSON, Special Assistant-Attorney General assigned to the Income Tax Division of the Tax Department, State of Minnesota, was contacted and furnished the information contained in the Bureau's letter of reference. He advised that the state's interest in BRIGGS was to force collection of unpaid Income Taxes for the years 1941 and 1942. Mr. ANDERSON indicated that the Tax Division particularly appreciated the Bureau's cooperation in this matter.

ENN:LM

62-1288 JUL 27 1944

TOP DESK
b6
b7C
DLED BY
62-74466-297

JKN:VH

7-4-44

(ROUTINE)

SAC, ST. PAUL

GEORGE N. BRIGGS. INFORMATION CONCERNING. REFER BUREAU LETTER JUNE
NINETEEN LAST. SUBMIT FACTS REQUESTED THERE IMMEDIATELY.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-1-85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

RECORDED

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

62-74466-300
F B I

EX-14

36 JUL 5 1944

COPIES DESTROYED
44 NOV 9 1964

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

78 JUL 13 1944 TELETYPE

6:53 P

KCH:cr
62-74466

July 6, 1944

RECORDED

SAC, New York

62-74466-301
Cover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-50

C. NELSON SPARKS, GEORGE W. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING
NY #62-8036

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-1-89 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

As you know, George W. Briggs is currently under indictment in Washington, D. C., with no specific date as yet set for his trial, on charges growing out of the production of a spurious communication over the forged signature of Harry L. Hopkins.

In the letter on this matter from your office dated June 13, 1944, it is noted that Mrs. Molly W. Briggs gave her address and that of her husband as 69-21 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York, [redacted]

b7D

Information has now been received from the Washington Field Office to the effect that this same address was given in April and May of this year by the Briggs family [redacted]

It is presumed that George W. Briggs is currently making the above-mentioned New York address his permanent residence. However, in order that the Bureau's records may reflect this as a certainty, it is desired that a discreet check be made to definitely establish whether Briggs is making this his permanent residence address and whether he is steadily available there.

It is requested that the St. Paul Office make inquiry on the basis of the following facts:

[redacted]

A discreet check should be made to determine whether Mr. or Mrs. Briggs or both are maintaining a residence at 1801 Second Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota. In the event they are maintaining a residence at this point, it should be ascertained how much time is spent there and whether Mr. Briggs is regularly or at various times available at that point.

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
 Coffey _____
 Glavin _____
 Ladd _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Acers _____
 Carson _____
 Harbo _____
 Hendon _____
 Mumford _____
 Starke _____
 Quinn Tamm _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

The above is to be given expeditious handling and the results made immediately available to the Bureau by letter under the above caption.

cc - St. Paul

60 AUG 14 1944

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: June 29, 1944

FROM : SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Bureau file #62-74,466)

Attention: Mr. J. K. MUMFORD

Reference is made to the telephone conversation on June 19, 1944 between Supervisor J. K. MUMFORD of the Bureau and Supervisor GEORGE KING of the Washington Field Office.

On June 19, 1944, Special Agent PERCY SMITH of this office telephonically ascertained from [redacted] Hyattsville, Maryland, that as of May, 1944, according to his records, GEORGE N. BRIGGS resides at 6921 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York.

b7D

On the same date Special Agent GEORGE E. DAVIS of this office ascertained through [redacted] of Fairlington Apartments, Arlington, Virginia, that 6921 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York, was the forwarding address left by Mr. BRIGGS when he moved from the Fairlington Apartments. [redacted] he sent a letter containing a refund to Mr. BRIGGS, and that inasmuch as the letter was never returned he assumed that Mr. BRIGGS resided as of that date at the above described address.

b7D

Inasmuch as the Bureau has requested on several occasions information concerning the present address of GEORGE N. BRIGGS, it is suggested that the Bureau may desire to request the New York Field Division to verify BRIGGS' present address as 6921 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York.

GED:BGW
62-4792

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/85 BY [redacted]

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-50

162-74466-301

37 JUL 10 1944

ANC, x. 44
cc. [redacted]
7/6/44

(15) KLG

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

69520

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/23/83 BY [redacted]

100-17700
JUL 12 1944
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

F

BI ST PAUL

7-5-44

1-32 PM

MVA

DIRECTOR

ROUTINE

USE.

GEORGE N. BRIGGS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. REURTEL OF FOURTH INSTANT.

PLEASE REFER TO MY LETTER OF JUNE THIRTY INSTANT. RUC HERE.

END

2-31 PM 1944 FBI WA MIBV

RECORDED

14 JUL 10 1944

62-4466-302
F B RHODES

[Signature]
b6
b7C

[Signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICEKCH:DM
62-74466: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

URGENT
July 20, 1944

SAC, ST. PAUL

RE C. NELSON SPARKS, GEORGE N. BRIGGS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. REBULET
THIS MATTER DATED JULY SIX CONTAINING INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR OFFICE TO
MAKE INQUIRY REGARDING POSSIBLE MINNEAPOLIS RESIDENCE OF SUBJECT. SUBMIT
LETTER AMSD IMMEDIATELY COVERING REQUESTED HANDLING.

HOOVER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COPIES DESTROYED
44 NOV 9 1964

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED

162-74466-303
F B I
37 JUL 20 1944

EX - 35

CENTRAL

12:48 PM

Per

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 22, 1944

FROM : SAC, St. Paul

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERYSUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS; GEORGE N. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Bureau File 62-74466.

Reference is made to Bureau letter to the New York Office and teletype to the St. Paul Office dated July 20, 1944 relative to the possible present residence of either Mr. or Mrs. GEORGE N. BRIGGS at 1801 Second Ave. in Minneapolis.

It has been determined that the apartment house building at 1801 Second Ave., Minneapolis, was sold on May 1, 1944 and is presently under new management. The BRIGGS' are not presently tenants there and have not been since May 1 and the previous records have not yet been made available for check.

[redacted] states that some mail has come to the building addressed to MOLLY W. BRIGGS but that same has been returned to the Post Office. They have no forwarding address. [redacted] also pointed out that there has never been a tenant, rental manager or a caretaker by the name of [redacted] as was suggested by the letter of reference wherein it was noted that [redacted]

b7D

Further investigation is being made and the Bureau will be promptly advised when the present whereabouts of Mr. and Mrs. BRIGGS is determined.

ENN:LM

cc New York (New York File 62-8036)

62-1325

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/86 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

162-74466-304
F B I
39 JUL 24 1944

51 AUG 16 1944 511

EX-42

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Washington

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS;
GEORGE N. BRIGGS;
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: July 22, 1944

Reference is made to the letter from the New York Office to the Director dated July 15, 1944, which reflects the verification of the residence of BRIGGS in New York at the present time.

In view of the fact that there appears to be no active investigation to be conducted at this time, this case is being placed in a pending-inactive status in the Washington Field Division and will again be placed in active status at such time as request for further investigation is received or at such time as BRIGGS is brought to trial in the District Court for the District of Columbia.

DECLASSIFIED

CEH:BR
62-4792

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/85 BY

RECORDED

41 JUL 26 1944

55 AUG 2

1944

EX-11

HANDL
STOP

62-74466-305

FBI

Jm

b6
b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

W JKM:CSH

DATE:

July 26, 1944

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: GEORGE N. BRIGGS

You will recall that George N. Briggs is under indictment in the District in connection with the book "One Man - Wendell Wilkie", in which the forged letter of Harry Hopkins appeared.

I thought you would be interested to know that Mr. Mumford happened to meet Mr. Henry Schweinhaut of the Criminal Division in the hall today and casually inquired when prosecution in this matter would be set. Mr. Schweinhaut facetiously replied "Right after the election".

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Jones ✓
Mr. Mumford ✓
Mr. Quinn ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
202

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

62-24466-306
F B I
16 AUG 1 1944

51 AUG 28 1944
358

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, St. Paul

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS; GEORGE N. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: July 27, 1944

A.C. Howe

Bureau File 62-74466.

Reference is made to letter from the Bureau dated July 6, 1944 and my letter dated July 22, 1944 concerning the present whereabouts of GEORGE N. BRIGGS and his wife, MOLLY W. BRIGGS.

It has been determined that there is a [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

Through the office of the Superintendent of Mails in Minneapolis it has been determined that no mail has been delivered during the past year at either 1801-2nd Avenue South, Minneapolis, or 3340 Emerson Avenue South, Minneapolis, in the name of MOLLY or GEORGE N. BRIGGS. There is no such address as 1801-2nd Avenue North and the apartment house records for 1801-2nd Avenue South do not reflect any tenancy in that building under the name of BRIGGS. Local directories and records of the Northern States Power Co. also do not reflect the name of GEORGE N. BRIGGS or MOLLY W. BRIGGS so it would appear that the BRIGGS' unless under an assumed name are not presently residing in Minneapolis.

This matter is being considered RUC.

ENN:IM

cc New York (New York File 62-8036)

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

me

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-74466-307

22 AUG 3 1944

za

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

b6
b7C

74 AUG 28 1944

44
EX-12

Sgt

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 11, 1944

FROM : SAC, St. Paul

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS,
GEORGE W. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING
Bureau File #62-74466

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

62

In connection with the above-entitled matter, please refer to the investigative report of Special Agent ROLLAND O. L'ALLIER, St. Paul, Minnesota, dated 8/8/44, entitled "ROGER SAMUEL RUTCHICK, was".

On Page 47 of instant report is a description of Exhibit 100 reflecting a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers which were obtained as a result of a trash coverage on RUTCHICK's office. The notation "BRIGGS (Dept. of Interior)" appears on this listing and this individual is supposedly a contact of RUTCHICK's.

The above information is called to the attention of the Bureau inasmuch as "BRIGGS (Dept. of Interior)" is believed to be identical with GEORGE N. BRIGGS, who is currently under indictment in Washington, D. C. on charges growing out of the production of a spurious communication over the forged signature of HARRY L. HOPKINS.

ROL:RS
62-1325
cc: 100-4436

b6
b7C

DECLASSIFIED BY
10-4-85

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

62-74466-308

SEP 16 1944

RECORDED

EX-42

No Action

WAVE

K. H. Howe

57 SEP 26 1944

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

EJC:sbs

62-8036

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 15, 1944

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS;
GEORGE N. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

✓ K. C. [Signature]

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 6, 1944 in which it is requested that the New York Office determine whether or not the address 69-21 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York is the permanent address of GEORGE N. BRIGGS.

Mr. FRANK J. RYAN, superintendent, United States Post Office, Forest Hills, New York, was contacted by Special Agent EUGENE F. COYLE on July 14, 1944 and it was determined that GEORGE N. BRIGGS is presently occupying a one-family home at the above mentioned address.

It was learned through the postal carrier on this route that GEORGE N. BRIGGS usually leaves his home between eight and nine A.M. in the morning.

It was learned that Mr. BRIGGS occupied the home at this address about a month ago,--coming from Washington, D. C.

Cm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [Redacted]

~~OFFICIAL RECORDING~~

b6
b7C

meus clark
cc Schmeier Kent
8/12/44
HCB

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED

EX-10

162-74466-309
FBI
28 AUG 18 1944

c/c [unclear] to WFO by V.S.

53

(5) [Signature]

KCH:mn
8-17-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation
GEORGE H. BRIDGES, C. HELLMUTH

In the event it has not already come to your attention, I thought you would be interested in knowing that this Bureau has received information to the effect that approximately two months ago George H. Bridges left his residence in Fairlington, Virginia and moved to 69-21 Fleet Street, Forest Hills, New York.

cc - Mr. Henry A. Schuchman

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

62-744-310	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	AUG 19 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

RECEIVED
AUG 19 1944

14

AUG 19 1944

AUG 19 1944

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

772

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

EAT:KLW

TO :

~~THE DIRECTOR~~ Mr. Ladd

DATE:

FROM :

MR. E. A. TAMM

SUBJECT:

GEORGE BRIGGS

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY

Mr. Ugo Carusi advised that the Attorney General had received a request from the Secretary of the Interior that all records made of his conversation with Briggs be returned, together with any transcripts made therefrom. The Attorney General, as well as Mr. Schweinhaut, thinks this is OK and wondered if the Bureau had any.

DE-INDEXED 8-17-55
DATE: 8-17-55
30
78 OCT 10 1944
Denny
305 E

I told him a check would be made and he would be advised accordingly this afternoon.

RECORDED

F B I

32 OCT 4 1944

b3
b7E

JRM:WLS

10-2-44

62-74466

Mr. Ugo Carusi

The Executive Assistant to the Attorney General

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GEORGE H. BRIGGS

Pursuant to your telephonic request, there are transmitted herewith the original transcript prepared by Miss Ellen Downs, Secretary to the Honorable Harold L. Ickes, of a recorded conversation between Mr. Ickes and George H. Briggs and the original of a supplementary rewrite of that same recorded conversation which was prepared by Miss Downs at a later time.

The actual records, four in number, on which was recorded the conversation set forth in the above-referred-to transcripts and which you also requested, were delivered on January 25, 1944, to Mr. Henry A. Schweinhart, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, at his office and have not since been returned to this Bureau by Mr. Schweinhart.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3

3 - 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

62-74466-311
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 6 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials "ph"]

[Handwritten initials "JRM"]

195

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JKM:EOD

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD

SUBJECT: GEORGE M. BRIGGS

DATE: October 5, 1944

9:25 AM

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Jones _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Beahm _____
 Miss Gandy _____

SA McCabe of the New York Office called and advised that, in reply to the Bureau's request, it has been ascertained that Briggs is still residing at 6921 Fleet Street, Forest Hill, which is a one-family private dwelling in a residential neighborhood. He stated it was not learned what he is doing.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 10/14/83 BY [signature]

OCT 14 1944

RECORDED

EX-1

62-74461-312
20 OCT 5 1944b6
b7C

5/2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT 3
19

CEH:VIM

TO: 62-4792

Director, FBI

DATE: October 9, 1944

FROM: *[Signature]*

GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington

SUBJECT:

C. NELSON SPARKS
GEORGE N. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

JFM

In accordance with the telephone conversation between ASAC C. E. HENNRICH, of this office, and Mr. J. K. MUMFORD, of the Bureau, on the morning of October 7, 1944, at which time the reported death of the subject BRIGGS, in New York City, was discussed, this case is being closed in the Washington Field Office and no further inquiries will be made.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~
[Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY *[Signature]*

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b7CHANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED 162-74466-313
F B I
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EX 42

(5) *[Signature]*

288
53 OCT 17 1944

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CA:RMB
62-74466

October 25, 1944

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Harry:

I am returning herewith the three cancelled checks, which you loaned for use in comparison of the signatures. These are checks No. 1, dated February 18, 1943, in the amount of \$3.00, payable to Ella Wilson; check No. 141, dated August 14, 1943, in the amount of \$9.90, payable to Western Union; check No. 143, dated August 16, 1943, in the amount of \$7.00, payable to Ella Wilson.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely,

Enclosure

RECORDED

62-74466-314
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 27 1944

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
★ OCT 25 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

12-74411-315
137
SAC, New York

November 14, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

C. NELSON SPARKS
GEORGE N. BRIGGS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/85 BY [redacted]

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b7C

Reference is made to the letter from the New York Office in this matter dated October 30, 1944, to which was attached a certified photostatic copy of the certificate of death of one George Charles Briggs, Certificate #7628, filed with the Bureau of Records, Department of Health, Borough of Queens, New York, New York, on October 5, 1944.

The following items which appear to be discrepancies appear on instant death certificate:

1. The middle name of the deceased is shown as Charles. The middle initial of the subject has been regularly given as "N" and there is no indication in the Bureau files that he ever used the middle name of Charles.

2. The death certificate shows that the deceased resided for ten years in New York City, immediately preceeding death. The subject had lived in New York for only a period of several weeks.

3. That portion of certificate calling for "signature of informant" shows the name of the subject's wife, Mollie W. Briggs, but this signature does not appear to be in the handwriting of Mollie W. Briggs.

It is noted George Charles Briggs died in Queens General Hospital on October 5, 1944, and had been confined to this hospital for a period of seventeen days prior to his demise, the death certificate being signed by one Dr. Jock Ruthberg, probably a resident physician at the hospital. It is further noted that the disposition of the body was by cremation.

In view of the foregoing, the Bureau is desirous of having the following investigation and such additional investigation as may thereafter appear warranted conducted. You will find attached photographic reproductions of newspaper pictures of the subject of this case, George N. Briggs. In as discreet a manner as possible, these pictures should be exhibited to individuals

at Queens General Hospital who attended and came into personal contact with the individual who died there as reflected on the death certificate submitted to you for the purpose of determining whether they recognize the deceased as being identical with George N. Briggs. A check should be made at

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAILED

NOV 15 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

50 DEC 12 1944

SAC, New York

the offices of the Retail Credit Company, Incorporated, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York City, in order to ascertain whether this agency has completed death claim investigations of any sort with respect to the subject of this case and, if so, on what basis these investigations were requested by the interested insurance companies and what the results were of any such investigations which may have been made.

The above instructions should be complied with immediately and the results promptly made available to the Bureau.

Enclosure 

RECEIVED
FBI NEW YORK
JAN 2 3 1954

MYK:MD
62-8036

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK CITY *RS*

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS; GEORGE M. BRIGGS;
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: OCTOBER 30, 1944

[Handwritten signature]

Reference is made to a telephone conversation between Mr. MUMFORD of the Bureau, and Assistant Special Agent in Charge, A. H. CROWL, on October 3, 1944. Mr. MUMFORD requested at the time, the present address and activity of GEORGE M. BRIGGS.

Mr. FRANK J. RYAN, Superintendent, U. S. Post Office, Forest Hills, New York, was contacted on October 4, 1944, and advised that GEORGE M. BRIGGS was still residing in a one family home at 6921 Fleet St., Forest Hills, New York.

The records of the Consolidated Edison Company, New York City, reflected that BRIGGS entered the above residence in March, 1944, and at the time listed his employment with the A. C. CRAFT COMPANY, 527 Fifth Ave., New York City.

The New York City papers on the morning of October 6, 1944, carried articles in their obituary columns of the death of GEORGE M. BRIGGS from a cerebral hemorrhage in Queens General Hospital, Jamaica, Long Island, New York.

A photostatic copy of the certificate of death of GEORGE M. BRIGGS was obtained from the Bureau of Vital Records and Statistics, City of New York, and reflects that GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS, residing at 6921 Fleet St., Forest Hills, New York, had been residing in the city of New York for ten years prior to his death. He was born May 6, 1886 and listed his occupation as that of a writer. His death occurred at 3:40 A.M., October 5, 1944, at Queens General Hospital, where he had been under medical care for seventeen days. It listed the principal cause of his death as arteriosclerosis of cerebral arteries. The contributory cause was listed as cerebral hemorrhage. His body was cremated at the Fresh Pond Crematory, October 7, 1944. The funeral directors were Stafford and McGlynn, 307 West 51st St., New York City. *[Handwritten initials]*

A photostatic copy of this death certificate will be enclosed with this letter to the Bureau.

In view of the above facts, no further investigation will be conducted on this matter by the New York Field Division.

Enclosure (1)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/4/85 BY *[Handwritten signature]*

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b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY 

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62-74466-315

ENCLOSURE



GEORGE W. BRIGGS.

62-74066-35

TTT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [signature]

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b7C



MR. BRIGGS

62-2416-511

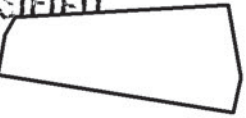
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/88 BY [redacted]

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62-74466-311

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY 

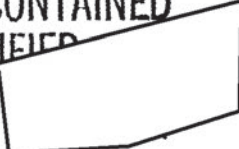
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GEORGE N. BRIGGS

Associated Press Photo

62-74466-315

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY 

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62-74466-313

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04/85 BY 

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CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS AND STATISTICS

Borough of **QUEENS**, New York, N. Y.

Oct 16-44

Below is a photostatic copy of a certificate on file in the Bureau of Vital Records and Statistics of the Department of Health of the City of New York.

BUREAU OF RECORDS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOROUGH OF QUEENS

Certificate of Death

7628

FILED
1944 OCT 5 PM 3 48

Certificate No.

1. NAME OF DECEASED George Charles Briggs		Social Security Number	
(Print or Type)			
PERSONAL PARTICULARS (To be filled in by Funeral Director)			
2. USUAL RESIDENCE: (a) State New York (c) City Queens (b) County Queens (d) No. 69-21 14th St. Ave. St. (e) Length of residence or stay in City of New York immediately prior to death 10 years			
3. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (write the word) Married			
4. WIFE Molly W Briggs of (month) May (year) 1896			
5. DATE OF BIRTH OF DECEASED May 6 1896			
6. AGE 39 yrs. mos. days hrs. or min. If LESS than 1 day, days hrs. or min.			
7. Occupation: A Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sewer, bookkeeper, etc. Writer B Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, sawmill, bank, own business, etc.			
8. BIRTHPLACE OF DECEASED: (a) State or Country U.S. (b) County Dixon (c) City, Town or Village			
9. OF WHAT COUNTRY WAS DECEASED A CITIZEN AT TIME OF DEATH? U.S.			
10. WAS DECEASED A WAR VETERAN? no IF SO, NAME WAR			
11. NAME OF FATHER OF DECEASED William Briggs			
12. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) U.S.			
13. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER OF DECEASED Ella Stewart			
14. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) U.S.			
15. SIGNATURE OF INFORMANT Molly W Briggs RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED Wife ADDRESS 69-21 14th St. Queens, N.Y.			
22. PLACE OF BURIAL OR CREMATION St. John's Cemetery DATE OF BURIAL OR CREMATION Oct 7-1944			
23. FUNERAL DIRECTOR Stafford & McElroy ADDRESS 307 West 51 St. PERMIT NUMBER 3822			
BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CITY OF NEW YORK			

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a record in my custody.

THOMAS J. DUFFIELD
Registrar of Records

BY **William F. Wilco** **U.S.**
acting Assistant Registrar of Records

WARNING: DO NOT ACCEPT THIS TRANSCRIPT UNLESS THE RAISED SEAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS AFFIXED THEREON. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS TRANSCRIPT IS PROHIBITED.

NOTICE: In issuing this transcript of the Record, the Department of Health of the City of New York does not certify to the truth of the statements made thereon, as no inquiry as to the facts has been provided by law.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

62-74466-315

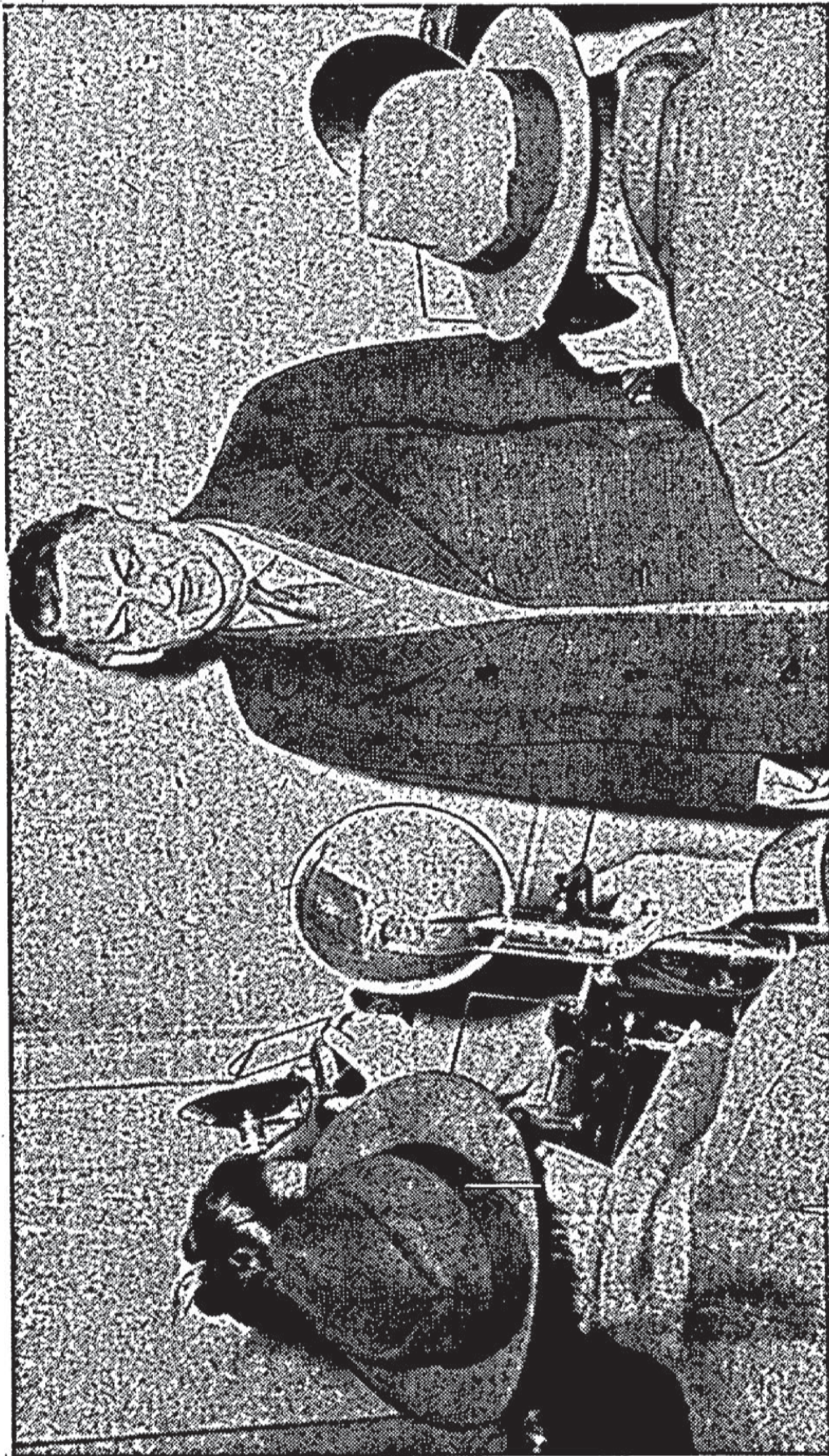


George N. Briggs

62-74466-315-

711

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]
b6
b7C



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

62-74466-315

KCH:cr
62-74466

36

SAC, Washington

January 22, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

C. NELSON SPARKS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to your letter in this matter dated December 15, 1944. It is desired that items 2, 3, 4, and 5, mentioned in this letter, be forwarded to the Bureau for appropriate subsequent transmittal to the Department in order that such disposition as the latter deems appropriate may be made of these items.

Items 1, 6, and 7, mentioned in your letter, may be destroyed in view of the subject's recent decease.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-85 BY [redacted]

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RECEIVED-MAIL
JAN 23 1945

RECORDS SECTION

JAN 23 1945

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FUR

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Bureau file #62-74466)

DATE: December 15, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

It is requested that the Bureau advise the Washington Field Office as to the disposition of certain bulky exhibits maintained in the Washington Field in connection with the above captioned case. The Bureau will note that subject in this case, GEORGE N. BRIGGS, is now deceased, and this case has been closed in the Washington Field Office.

The disposition of the following material is requested:

1. Photostatic copies of letters and telegrams sent or received by GEORGE BRIGGS.
2. Signed statements of [redacted] dated February 18th and 19th of 1944.
3. Original stenographic notes of the signed statement of [redacted] maintained as evidence.
4. Stenographic notes re the statement of [redacted]
5. Signed statement obtained from [redacted]
6. Summary of the activities of [redacted]
7. One white envelope addressed to [redacted] Washington, D. C., obtained from the Clerk's Office of the U. S. Court House, Washington, D. C.

b7D

RHK:AA
62-4792

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INDEXED

EX-73

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36 DEC 16 1944

62-74466-316
FIVE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

EHH:MFK
62-8036

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 21, 1944

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS
GEORGE N. BRIGGS;
INFORMATION CONCERNINGALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]b6
b7C

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated November 14, 1944, wherein the Bureau referred to a New York letter of October 30, 1944, which transmitted a death certificate of one GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS, Certificate #7628, and which was filed with the Bureau of Records, Department of Health, Borough of Queens, New York, New York, on October 5, 1944. The Bureau letter of reference pointed out certain discrepancies which appeared on that death certificate and requested that the New York Field Office display photographs of GEORGE N. BRIGGS to individuals at the Queens General Hospital, New York, in order to determine if they recognize the deceased GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS as identical with GEORGE N. BRIGGS.

For the information of the Bureau, the photographs as forwarded from the Bureau were displayed to individuals at the Queens General Hospital and they identified the deceased GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS as being identical with CHARLES N. BRIGGS.

[redacted] at the Queens General Hospital, 164th Street and Grand Central Parkway, Queens, New York was contacted and he identified the photographs which were forwarded by the Bureau to New York as being identical with GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS, the deceased patient at that hospital. [redacted] volunteered the information that he recalls discussing with other doctors at this hospital the fact that the patient BRIGGS was the individual who received some publicity as the possible author of a letter which was reportedly written by some Washington official. [redacted] displayed the hospital records for the patient, GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS and they reflect that the patient was received as CHARLES BRIGGS, 69-21 Fleet Avenue, Forest Hills, and all reports on his condition, including a laboratory report, bear the same legend. However, [redacted] added that at a later date someone in the hospital added the name GEORGE to the hospital reports. This name GEORGE was written in above and between the names CHARLES and BRIGGS and a carrot was placed between the names to indicate that the name should have been CHARLES GEORGE BRIGGS. He could offer no information as to the identity of the individual who made this insertion, nor was there any notation in the file explaining it. There also was in the file a Department of Health form which is an affidavit form for the release of the body. This form was submitted by the undertaker, NATHANIEL STAFFORD, Manager for Stafford and McGlynn, 307 West 51st Street, New York City, and the signature of NATHANIEL STAFFORD was sworn to by a notary. This form notifies the hospital that

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51 JAN 10 1945

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62-24466-317

60 DEC 20 1944

J.R. FIDEL

62-8036

Letter/ Director, FBI

December 21, 1944

Nellie
NELLIE W. BRIGGS, wife of the deceased, residing at 69-21 Fleet Avenue, Forest Hills, requested NATHANIEL STAFFORD to take charge of the remains of GEORGE N. BRIGGS. [redacted] also advised that [redacted]

b7D

[redacted] might have some information regarding him. [redacted] also advised that the Queens General Hospital is only for residents of the Borough of Queens, and that for a person to be admitted, their Queens residence is the primary consideration.

[redacted] at the Queens General Hospital, positively identified the photographs which were submitted by the Bureau, as being identical with the deceased patient, GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS. He advised that [redacted] the patient died as a result of a cerebral hemorrhage. *// Company*

Mr. LANG, Retail Credit Bureau, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York City, advised that his office has no record of any inquiry regarding GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS or GEORGE N. BRIGGS.

Mr. WARREN COLLINS of the HOOPER HOLMES BUREAU, New York City, advised that his organization has no recent inquiry on GEORGE CHARLES BRIGGS or GEORGE N. BRIGGS. He stated that they have a record of an investigation conducted for the Home Owners Loan Corporation in 1935, which office at that time was located at the Empire State Building. This investigation was conducted regarding GEORGE N. BRIGGS, who on September 2, 1935 resided at 67-17 Clyde Street, Forest Hills, New York, and was an employee of the Sedgwick Fuel Company, Brooklyn, New York.

In view of the fact that the photographs which were submitted by the Bureau have been displayed to the individuals at the Queens General Hospital, and have been identified by them as being identical with GEORGE N. BRIGGS, no further investigation is being considered by the New York Field Office unless requested to do so by the Bureau.

EHH:DFK
62-8036

Director, FBI

December 21, 1944

SAC, New York

C. NELSON SPARKS
GEORGE N. BRIGGS;
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

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b7D

62-8036

Letter/ Director, FBI

December 21, 1944

NELLIE W. BRIGGS, wife of the deceased, residing at 69-21 Fleet Avenue, Forest Hills, requested NATHANIEL STAFFORD to take charge of the remains of GEORGE N. BRIGGS. [redacted] also advised that [redacted]

b7D

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In view of the fact that the photographs which were submitted by the Bureau have been displayed to the individuals at the Queens General Hospital, and have been identified by them as being identical with GEORGE N. BRIGGS, no further investigation is being considered by the New York Field Office unless requested to do so by the Bureau.

318

RECORDED
19-43

KCH:lem

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Criminal Division

March 1, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GEORGE N. BRIGGS
C. NELSON SPARKS

Attached hereto are the originals of the following exhibits
in the captioned case:

1. Signed statements of [redacted] dated February 18 and 19, 1944.
2. Original stenographic notes relating to signed statement of [redacted] by stenographer [redacted]
3. Stenographic notes regarding the signed statement of [redacted] made by stenographer [redacted]
4. Signed statement of [redacted] dated February 22, 1944, together with carbon copy.

b7D

This material is currently being forwarded to you for such disposition as you see fit, in view of the death of the subject, George N. Briggs.

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

MAR 1 7 10 PM '45

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS
INFORMATION CONCERNING
Bureau File 62-74466

DATE: January 29, 1945

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated January 22, 1945 which sets out certain instructions concerning the disposition of the bulky exhibits in this file which are maintained at present at the Washington Field Division. There are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures with this letter the following exhibits:

1. Signed statements of [redacted] dated February 18 and 19, 1944. b7D
2. Original stenographic notes relating to signed statement of [redacted] by Stenographer [redacted]
3. Stenographic notes regarding the signed statement of [redacted] made by Stenographer [redacted]
4. Signed statement of [redacted] dated February 22, 1944, together with carbon copy.

The remaining exhibits mentioned in your letter are being destroyed. No further action is contemplated in connection with this matter by the Washington Field Office and the case is carried in a closed status.

Enclosures. - Sent to Clark

62-4792
GKS:mcw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/86 BY [redacted]

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b7C

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3/1/45
Keb

62-74466-318

INDEXED
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EX-78

Keb

4 72
19 206

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Tavel

FROM : J. W. Marshall

SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 6-22-70

Tolson _____

DeLoach _____

Walters _____

Mohr _____

Bishop _____

Casper _____

Callahan _____

Conrad _____

Felt _____

Gale _____

Rosen _____

Sullivan _____

Tavel _____

Soyars _____

Tele. Room _____

Holmes _____

Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 62-74466-319

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1116, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

OTB:csa

☐ Retain☒ Destroy☐ Other Disposition _____

Reason for Decision: Subject deceased since 1944 and
enclosed material is of no technical value to
the Laboratory.

Signature of Reviewing Supervisor

Salmon G. Jones

Destroyed 7-13-70 Cat

62-74466-

NOT RECORDED

186 JUL 13 1970

7 AUG 17 1970 R32

4-43

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

gjh
TO : MR. NEASEN
FROM : L. E. SHORTEN
SUBJECT: C. NELSON SPARKS
Information Concerning

DATE: 8-12-58

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/85 BY

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont b6 _____
Mohr b7C _____
Nease _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Clayton _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 62-74466-319

We are presently in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits presently on hand, in order that we may weed out those which will serve no useful purpose by being retained. Inasmuch as a great many of these bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that you have the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein. A notation as to the decision rendered should be placed on this memorandum, and it should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1113, Identification Building. This memorandum will be filed in the case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above-listed bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein.

gjh:gbh

*Retain original documents
and examine work sheets.
Exhibit photographs destroyed
negatives on file
H.M.D.*

*Handled
8-26-58
pwa*

62-74466-

NOT RECORDED

16 AUG 27 1958

J. W. MARSHALL

52 AUG 28 1958

F75

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : R. T. HARBO *RT*

FROM : H. B. LONG

SUBJECT: C. Nelson Sparks
Information Concerning
Bureau file 62-74466

DATE: 12-6-46

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/85 BY [redacted]

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

b6
b7C

The file maintained in the Laboratory in this case has been disposed of and there is attached an envelope containing the material which was in the Laboratory File and which is not duplicated in the Investigative file. It is desired that the Record Section file this as an enclosure behind the file.

162-74466-319
NOT RECORDED
19 DEC 8 1946

ENCL - *Cutler memo*
transcribed our memo 8-12-58
that is done 8-12-58
53 DEC 11 1946 *Destroyed by Bureau 4-34 dated 6-22-70 Cat.*
Destroyed 7-13-76 Cat.

September 24, 1940

RE: HARRY L. HOPKINS

The following information was received from an outside unknown source dated at New York City, August 9, 1940, and is being made a part of the files of the Bureau for record purposes only:

✓ "Recently on the floor of the House at Washington, David K. Niles was reported to be a Communist mixed up in the Maritime mess, and he was denounced for his activities. Statements were made that Niles was born in Russia, and that he is a brother-in-law of Harry Hopkins."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

#256586

OCT 2 RECD

Ent

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

COPIES DESTROYED
348 OCT 28 1964

N 62-59396-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 25 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
<i>FIVE</i>

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

JAN 3 11 59 AM '41

RECEIVED
F B I
COMMUNICATIONS

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SAID TODAY THAT FORMER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
HARRY HOPKINS WILL BE SENT TO LONDON SOON AS HIS PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE.

1/3--R1156A

FLASH

ROOSEVELT NAMES HOPKINS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO LONDON

1/3--R1155A

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOT RECORDED

INDEXED

62-59876-1X1

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

HHC:VCR

February 12, 1941

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

b6
b7C

no record as
6/27/41
SM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Subject to your approval, there are
attached hereto letters to General Watson and Mr.
Berle, concerning conversations overheard in
Claridge's Hotel in London following a dinner given
by Mr. Harry Hopkins to a group of English news-
paper publishers.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg. and [signature]

DECLASSIFIED

RECORDED

62-59396-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 FEB 17 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON TAMM FIVE

October 24, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

Dear Mc:--

Find attached my report on the chief individual who would like to see Hoover eliminated.

I also note what Mr. Tamm has to say regarding generalities. I wonder if Mr. Tamm is aware that there are people in this country who have for years been supplying Governmental Agencies, F.B.I. agents and the Department as a whole with information and never received one cent of compensation? It is a fine thing to be an American citizen--it is much finer to be able to supply your Government at times with information, but when it reaches a point where you find that in one month and the next month you go in the red because of overhead expenses, then you stop and consider and ask yourself, "Is it worthwhile?"

That is the situation that faced us in the months of August and September and the indications are that it will be no better this month. Yes, sometimes we have to deal in generalities because we do not have the force and the facilities and money to go out and secure all of the information available and then turn it over to some group and not even receive a courteous "thank you" for same.

Six months ago I had set up probably the finest tie-up with the N.M.U. that anyone could possibly have. It required a couple of hundred dollars a month to keep it going, and in addition I had other contacts. However, I've had to sit back and watch them go down the sewer because I did not have the funds to carry them on.

It is easy enough for the F.B.I. to appeal to the W.C.T.U., Boy Scouts and Defense groups to send in all the information they can secure, but during the last five months our little office has been the meeting place of plenty of F.B.I. agents, agents from G2 and others--all wanting something but not a one of them even dropping a nickle on the counter as they left.

I don't know if there are any others in this country in the same position I am, but I do know that

EX - 15

INDEXED

62-59396-3
JAN 10 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Carson has seen

Humphreys

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Holloman.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

October 24, 1941

Subject:

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

F.B.I. CHIEF--WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Government official who met with Winston Churchill, who would go out of his way to eliminate Mr. Hoover, is none other than Harry Hopkins--who is the President's confidential advisor.

This information came to me from my most authentic source, who now receives practically all messages sent from Washington to New York in regards to confidential affairs, etc. She is in a position to know what is going on and who is doing it and in answer to a question, this information was given to me just a few hours ago.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/86 BY [redacted]

62-59396-3

b6
b7c

I'm soon going to have to call a halt because I want to make some money for myself, and even when I was doing the big job for Britain it was costing 65% of the income to keep certain people contented and happy.

I would like to have you send this letter to Mr. Tamm. Probably it will do no good, but only recently another representative from the F.B.I. was here in the office and, as usual, he wanted contacts in the various parts of the country. One must remember that these contacts cannot be pulled out of a hat like the magician's rabbit, but it takes years to work them up to a point of perfection. For instance, one of my contacts during the past six months has cost me around three hundred dollars in liquor, hosiery and fruit. I have found it necessary to send a case of wine and hose in dozen lots and the minute I refuse, "bing goes my contact."

Here I sit back talking like this when only a few years ago I was offered a bonus of five thousand dollars and seven thousand dollars a year if I would furnish research information for another government, and this government was Germany. I told them to go plumb to hell.

As ever

G.K.C.



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/80 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

Em

62-59396-4/
CANCELLED

137
61 APR 17 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/83 BY [redacted]

JEH:JRC

September 16, 1948

4:30 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

Harry Hopkins telephoned me to inform me of a current rumor circulating about his honeymoon. Bill Stanley talked to Steve Early yesterday and advised Mr. Early that he had picked up the story that Mr. Hopkins had taken a *Yanuy* boat on his honeymoon and it had been necessary to take this boat off of patrol duty for the honeymoon trip. Mr. Hopkins advised me that Mr. Stanley's wife had heard the same story from a different source yesterday; Steve Early received a letter today from the Democratic Chairman in Rochester, New York, relating the story; and Senator Brown of Michigan today received a letter from Detroit relating the same story in exactly the same language. Mr. Hopkins told me that the letter Senator Brown has received mentions that someone has made an affidavit of this and sent it to Westbrook Pegler.

Mr. Hopkins asked me if I thought this should be run down and I told him it should by all means. I mentioned to him this appeared like a campaign snifter to the rumors on the Eleanor-Clyde we have discovered in the South. He told me he would furnish me with several of the letters. I advised him as soon as I receive them I will arrange to talk to Bill Stanley and proceed with the investigation and would then furnish him with a full report.

4:35 PM

Mr. Hopkins telephoned again stating that Steve Early has the beginning of the story but that he, Mr. Early, has to issue Mr. E.A. Tamm tomorrow and wondered if I could send a man over to talk to Mr. Early right away. I told Mr. Hopkins I would have one of my men come right over.

Very truly yours,

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

6:10 PM
9-16-48
JLB

John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-5734-5

RECORDED

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



EAT:DS

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

September 21, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/65 BY [redacted]

CC-287

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Kramer	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

b6
b7C

The information contained in the attached letter to Mr. Harry Hopkins was furnished to me by Major Cornelius Vanderbilt by long distance telephone at 7:00 A. M. on Sunday morning, September 20th. I of course told Major Vanderbilt that this information would be transmitted to the proper authorities immediately.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

Attachment

RECORDED & INDEXED

8-54

62-59396-6

22

FOR DEFENSE



37 SEP 26 1942

JEH:JRC

4:40 PM

September 20, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

I returned a telephone call of Oscar Cox who advised me that Adlai Stevenson in Secretary Knox's office has received four or five letters concerning the story circulating about Harry Hopkins. Mr. Stevenson received his last letter from the Journal American and wishes to answer that based on Coast Guard reports Mr. Hopkins had not been on that particular boat or any Navy boat during his vacation. Mr. Cox asked my opinion on this answer and I told him it was exactly right.

Mr. Cox asked if I would like to see the letters that Mr. Stevenson has received and I asked him to arrange so I will receive them.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E.A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

10:20 am
9-29-42
JRH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/18/83 BY [redacted]

62-5121-7
F B I
18 SEP 20 1942

JEH:JRC

12:58 PM

October 2, 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

Harry Hopkins telephoned from the White House to advise they are still getting letters concerning the rumor about his honeymoon. He mentioned this morning he received some from the Cincinnati Inquirer. Mr. Hopkins asked if we have obtained any leads from our investigation.

I told him I had just received this morning several letters from the Navy Department on this and that I would prepare and send him a memorandum this afternoon.

Very truly yours,

(S) J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-1-82 BY

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E.A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDS

2:10 PM

10-2-48

103-59876-8

101-22

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



JCM:lm

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 6, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: RUMOR RE HARRY HOPKINS' USE OF
A GOVERNMENT REQUISITIONED BOAT

CC-287

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____ b6
Mr. Carson	_____ b7C
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Kramer	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Beahm	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Reference is made to my memorandum dated October 2, 1942, regarding the above captioned subject matter. With further reference to this matter, I desire to advise that Mr. E. Willoughby Middleton, an attorney of Rochester, New York, was contacted and interviewed regarding his knowledge of this rumor as circulated in Rochester.

You will recall that Mr. Middleton on September 9, 1942, wrote a letter to Mr. Raymond N. Beebe, an attorney in Washington, D. C., requesting him to ascertain from Mr. Early if there was any basis for the story being circulated in Rochester regarding Mr. Hopkins' use of a Government requisitioned boat on his honeymoon.

Mr. Middleton advised that he heard the story originally from his law partner, Mr. T. Carl Nixon, and that he has since heard it from many persons. He advised that he believed that Fulton Lewis, the radio news commentator, had started the story in Rochester perhaps unintentionally. Mr. Middleton advised that this belief was based upon information he had received to the effect that Fulton Lewis at a certain social gathering had stated that he had heard the story and was endeavoring to verify it. Mr. Middleton stated that he was unable to advise whether Mr. Lewis made this statement at a gathering in Washington, D. C., or in Rochester, but in any event, it was made in the presence of Rochester residents and passed on by them. He stated that he could not advise as to the identity of any of the Rochester residents who were present at the time and heard Mr. Lewis make this statement. In this connection, you will recall that my memorandum to you in regard to this matter dated October 2, 1942, mentions a statement made by Mr. Fruehauf to the effect that one of the numerous persons who had contacted him to verify the story regarding Mr. Hopkins was Mr. Fulton Lewis. Since the facts in this case disclose that many newspapers and newspaper reporters have endeavored to verify this story, no particular significance is attached to the fact that Mr. Lewis has also sought to do so.

Mr. T. Carl Nixon, upon interview in Mr. Middleton's office, advised that he heard the story on the golf course from a fellow player. He was not requested to furnish the name of this individual. He stated that since he was a Republican and a "staunch anti-New Dealer" he thought that the story was an excellent one to pass on to his Democrat friends, particularly Mr. Middleton with whom he is constantly arguing politics.

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

34 OCT 28 1964

COPY IN FILE

FIVE

I desire to advise further that Chief Boatswain's Mate Ray L. Behling (not Roy as previously reported), 121 Montrose Avenue, Buffalo, New York, was also contacted and interviewed in connection with this case. You will recall that Ray L. Behling was the individual who had been designated by Commander Rasmussen to act as skipper of the former Fruehauf boat at the time this boat took certain Canadian officials to a designated point in Lake Erie in an unsuccessful effort to contact the passenger liner City of Cleveland.

Behling recalled that around July 30, 1942, while he was occupied with official duties at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, he received an order from Commander Rasmussen to proceed to Detroit, Michigan, with two crew members for a special assignment. He stated that he immediately went to Detroit with two apprentice seamen and contacted Lieutenant Commander H. A. Meyer who is in charge of the Coast Guard Base at Detroit. According to Behling these apprentice seamen were a Mr. Rudy who has since been assigned to freighter service and a Mr. Luke who is now assigned to a coastal patrol boat. He stated that on July 31, 1942, he was informed by Lieutenant Commander Meyer that, acting under instructions from Commander Rasmussen, he was to take the former Fruehauf boat, My Kay IV, to Amherstburg, Canada, where he was to pick up a number of Canadian officials at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, August 2, 1942, and that he was to take these officials to a designated point off of the Sandusky Range where he would meet the passenger liner City of Cleveland. He stated that he was instructed to discharge his passengers aboard this boat and then to proceed to Cleveland. Behling advised that he was given specific instructions with reference to meeting these Canadian officials and the procedure to be adopted in transferring them to the City of Cleveland in order to avoid an accident. However, he stated that he was not told the purpose of this meeting or that a personal representative of the President was aboard the City of Cleveland. He stated that he only knew that a conference of some type was contemplated aboard this boat prior to its return to Cleveland. He stated that aboard the boat his passengers talked in French and as a result he was unable to learn the purpose of the meeting from their conversation. Behling advised that according to plan he departed from Detroit in the My Kay IV on the afternoon of August 1, 1942, and picked up his passengers at Amherstburg on the following morning. He stated that a United States Customs official was present at Amherstburg to provide the Canadians with proper credentials and an unidentified American Army Colonel who acted as host.

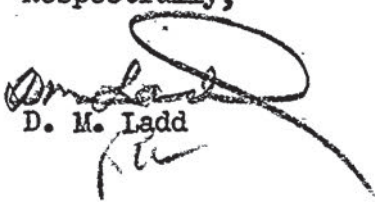
He stated that he and his passengers arrived at the designated meeting point about 1:30 in the afternoon of this date, which was an hour and a half ahead of time, and that as a result it was necessary for him to cruise in the vicinity in extremely rough water while waiting for the appearance of the City of Cleveland. He stated that he waited at this point until 5:00 P.M. and when the City of Cleveland failed to appear by this time he proceeded directly to Cleveland where he discharged his passengers, two of whom were very seasick. He stated that he immediately contacted Commander Rasmussen who took him to task for his failure to meet the passenger liner and accused him of not being at the

designated spot on time. Behling advised that on the following day an article appeared in a Cleveland newspaper describing his failure to meet the City of Cleveland as "an international incident". He stated that the captain of the City of Cleveland subsequently told him that he did not try very hard to locate the Coast Guard boat since he knew that a transfer of its passengers in such rough water was impossible.

Behling advised that he had never heard the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' alleged use of the My Kay IV on his honeymoon either at the Detroit Coast Guard Base or anywhere else. He stated that he departed in the My Kay IV so soon after receiving his final orders that he would have had little opportunity to hear gossip of this nature. In this connection, he did recall that while passing through Detroit on September 30, 1942, he met a Coast Guard Lieutenant whose name he was unable to remember but who he stated is in charge of the lighthouse tender Marigold stationed at the Detroit Base. Behling advised that at this meeting this Lieutenant asked him, "How did you like the bride?" Behling stated that he informed the Lieutenant he did not know what he was talking about. Whereupon the Lieutenant told him that he had passed him on August 2, 1942, while he was en route to meet the City of Cleveland and had seen Mrs. Hopkins looking out the cabin window of the My Kay IV. Behling advised that he assured the Lieutenant that no women were aboard this boat on that date and thought nothing more of the incident. He stated that it is now clear to him that this Lieutenant was probably referring to the false story reporting Mr. Hopkins and his bride using this boat.

With reference to the subsequent itinerary of the My Kay IV after its arrival in Cleveland, Behling advised that he remained with the boat in Cleveland until Tuesday, August 4, 1942, while its burnt out generators were being replaced and on the morning of this date he took it to Buffalo where it was in dry dock about two weeks being painted and converted to war use. He stated that thereafter it was taken to Charleston, South Carolina by a reserve crew for duty.

Respectfully,


D. M. Ladd


1007
1876
58

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



JCM:lm

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: RUMOR RE HARRY L. HOPKINS' USE
OF GOVERNMENT REQUISITIONED BOAT

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____ b6
Mr. Carson _____ b7C
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

There are hereinafter set forth the facts developed in an investigation conducted to ascertain the origin of a false story which was circulated in various parts of the United States accusing Mr. Harry Hopkins of delaying the conversion of a private boat which had been acquired by the United States Government for coastal patrol duty in order that he might use this boat on his honeymoon. This Bureau was requested to endeavor to establish the source of this story in order that it might be determined if it was deliberately circulated for the purpose of undermining popular faith in the administration of the Government, thereby damaging morale and bringing about a lack of unity in this Nation's war effort.

NATURE OF THE STORY CIRCULATED

The story being circulated with Mr. Hopkins as its innocent victim states that one of the Fruehauf brothers of Detroit, Michigan, wealthy manufacturers of automobile trailers, offered his boat to the Navy for the duration. In making this transfer, the owner is reported to have made one request, namely, that he be permitted to use the boat on a two-weeks vacation cruise before turning it over to the Navy. The Navy agreed to this stipulation, and the necessary transfer papers were duly executed with this stipulation being made a part of the contract. The story continues that the owner of the boat started on his vacation according to plan but was out only about 24 hours when he received a radiogram stating that the boat was needed for an important mission and requesting his immediate return. The owner immediately returned as ordered and turned his boat and crew over to the Government. The story then continues that some time after this the owner met the captain of his boat who said to him, "Well, that was some trip we had." The owner said, "What was the trip?" The captain replied, "We took Harry Hopkins and his bride on their honeymoon." The owner is then alleged to have verified the authenticity of this story and is reported to have secured affidavits from members of his eight-man crew which proved the story to be true.

ORIGIN OF STORY

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

Based upon the facts developed in this investigation, it is felt that a conclusion might reasonably be drawn that the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' use of the Fruehauf boat on his honeymoon started among the personnel assigned to the Detroit Base of the United States Coast Guard.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

1167

62-59396-9
F B I

COPIES DESTROYED
IN FILE

348 OCT 28 1964

FIVE

It is believed that this story was erroneously inferred from a number of unrelated circumstances that occurred on the days immediately succeeding Mr. Hopkins' marriage, the details of which are set forth in this memorandum.

ACQUISITION OF MY KAY IV BY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

The records of the War Shipping Administration, Washington, D. C., reflect that this agency was requested by the Navy to acquire the My Kay IV, a 55 foot boat, owned by Roy Fruehauf of Detroit, Michigan, for the use of the Coast Guard on June 29, 1942; that on July 10, 1942, the Commandant of the Ninth Naval District, Cleveland, Ohio, was authorized to take possession of this boat and to issue appropriate receipts therefor to the owner. The records reflect that the boat was actually acquired by the Coast Guard at Detroit, Michigan, on July 24, 1942. The reason for the 14 day interval between the authorization to acquire this boat and the actual acquisition is not reflected in the file. The inventory sheet as submitted by Mr. Roy Fruehauf, owner of the boat, reflected that he valued the boat at approximately \$43,000. The appraisal as submitted by the War Shipping Administration placed its value at approximately \$22,000. The file contains a letter from Mr. Fruehauf complaining about the low valuation set on his boat and expressing his willingness to come to Washington to discuss the matter with the War Shipping Administration. By letter dated September 17, 1942, this agency advised Mr. Fruehauf that the appraisal of his boat would be reconsidered and that it would not be necessary for him to come to Washington. This matter of a fair valuation on Mr. Fruehauf's boat was still under consideration at the time these records were examined. The records of the United States Coast Guard, Washington, D. C., reflect that the My Kay IV was originally offered for sale to the Coast Guard by Mr. Roy Fruehauf of Detroit, Michigan, in May, 1942. On June 17, 1942, the District Coast Guard Officer for the Ninth Naval District at Cleveland, Ohio, recommended the purchase of this vessel for Captain of the Boat use. This recommendation was approved by headquarters on June 29, 1942, and a request was sent to the War Shipping Administration to authorize the purchase of this vessel.

The records further reflect that on July 24, 1942, the My Kay IV was turned over to the Coast Guard, Ninth Naval District, by the War Shipping Administration representative at Detroit (subsequently found to be the Coast Guard Commandant at Detroit, who acted as agent for the War Shipping Administration and receiving agent for the Coast Guard). The vessel was assigned Coast Guard Number 53003. The records further reflect that on July 28, 1942, the boat was ordered transferred to the Sixth Naval District and left Detroit on August 19, 1942, arriving in New York on August 26, 1942. It departed from New York on August 27, 1942, and arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, on September 7, 1942, for service after conversion in off shore patrol duty. The information as to the date on which the boat left Detroit was subsequently found through investigation to be incorrect. The decision to use this boat on coastal waters instead of inland waters in the Ninth Naval District as originally contemplated was made because of the great need for this type of boat in the coastal

regions. Since the boat was acquired by purchase, the retention of the civilian crew was not involved in the transfer, and Coast Guard personnel were in charge of the boat from the date of its acquisition. Information as to the use and location of the boat before transfer to Charleston and the identity and complement of the crew while in Detroit and during transfer was not available in the records at Washington, D. C.

THE FACTS DEVELOPED THROUGH INVESTIGATION AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The following facts pertaining to this case were developed from interviews with the owner of the boat and from contacts with other persons who, by reason of their connection with the Government's acquisition of this boat or their knowledge of the unfounded story being circulated regarding the use of the boat by Mr. Hopkins, might logically be in a position to furnish information of value in connection with this investigation.

Mr. Roy Fruehauf, Vice-President, Fruehauf Trailer Company, 10940 Harper Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, upon interview, advised that on May 26, 1942, the negotiations for the purchase of his boat, My Kay IV, were opened by the Coast Guard when at the request of this Service a survey of his boat was made by the Coast Guard acting as the agent for the War Shipping Administration. He stated that shortly after this he became ill and was hospitalized throughout the following month of June. He stated that in the early part of July, while convalescing from this illness, he decided to take a fishing cruise to Lake Superior with his wife and another couple who usually accompanied them on cruises aboard the My Kay IV. He stated that in the meantime he had heard nothing from the War Shipping Administration or the Coast Guard regarding the acquisition of his boat and had no reason to believe that the Government would desire to take over his boat before his return from the cruise which was to last for an indefinite time but which he believed would take about two weeks. He stated that the party of four, accompanied by a crew of three, namely, a captain, a steward, and a sailor, left Detroit around the first week in July and cruised leisurely through the locks at Sault Sainte Marie into Georgian Bay and thence to Lake Superior. Considerable time was spent in fishing both in Georgian Bay and Lake Superior.

Mr. Fruehauf stated that the party completed their fishing and on the return trip reached Sault Sainte Marie on about July 20, 1942. He stated that he put into port at this point in order that he could make a phone call to his home. He stated that it was upon this occasion that he learned that Lieutenant Commander Meyer of the United States Coast Guard at Detroit had communicated with his office and had informed that his boat had been requisitioned by the Government. Mr. Fruehauf stated that he called Lieutenant Commander Meyer immediately and was advised that authority to acquire his boat had been received from the Ninth Naval District Headquarters at Cleveland and that he would be required to turn over his boat to the Coast Guard upon his return to Detroit. Mr. Fruehauf stated that contrary to the rumor subsequently circulated

Lieutenant Commander Meyer did not demand his immediate return but merely requested him to see that the boat was turned over within a reasonable time. He advised that the cruise did not have the beneficial effects on his health that he had anticipated and that for this reason he advised Commander Meyer that in the event good weather did not prevail on the return trip, the actual turning over of the boat to the Government might be somewhat delayed since he did not feel that his health could stand a stormy trip. Mr. Fruehauf stated that fortunately they encountered good weather throughout the return trip and that they were therefore able to complete the journey to Detroit in excellent time, arriving, to the best of his knowledge, on July 22, 1942.

He stated that he personally turned over the boat to the Coast Guard on July 24, 1942, received a receipt for the same, and considered the matter closed. In this connection, he advised that he contacted his attorney regarding the legality of the receipt he received from the United States Coast Guard. He stated that he raised this issue because he was of the opinion that he should have more than a mere slip of paper to show the transfer of a boat as valuable as the My Kay IV. He reiterated that in the meantime he had heard nothing from the War Shipping Administration regarding payment for his boat, and, therefore, it was only natural that he should question the advisability of turning the boat over before payment had been received. He stated that he was advised by his attorney that this was entirely in accord with the usual procedure and that upon this advice he dropped the entire matter.

Mr. Fruehauf stated that he knows now that this was only the beginning of his troubles. He stated that some time after the boat was turned over, perhaps a week to the best of his knowledge, he received a telephone call from the Associated Press advising him that this agency had received a report from a Chicago representative that he had been forced to return to Detroit from his vacation cruise so that Mr. Hopkins could use the boat on his honeymoon. He stated that he emphatically denied this story but apparently was not believed because he continued to receive telephone calls from the Associated Press and from other newspaper agencies. He stated that thereafter for several weeks he was besieged with calls from newspapermen, magazine publishers, and divers individuals in connection with this story which in the meantime had spread rapidly. Mr. Fruehauf advised that one of the most recent inquiries concerning this story came from Fulton Lewis, a news commentator connected with a Washington, D. C., radio broadcasting station. He stated that some of these sources even reported to him that the rumor was prevalent that he and his party had been forcibly ejected from their boat in Georgian Bay and were forced to make their own way back to civilization. He stated that he has since denied the story so many times until he feels that there is no one left who has not inquired about it at least once.

Mr. Fruehauf advised that he was unable to state how or by whom the story was started or why he and his boat should have been the victim of this falsehood when one considers the number of boats that have been acquired by the Government in the Detroit area.

Chief Boatswain's Mate Victor Schenk, Detroit Base, United States Coast Guard, was contacted with reference to the Coast Guard's acquisition of My Kay IV. He stated that the Base's official records reflect that the boat was acquired at 4:00 p.m. on July 24, 1942, and was removed from Detroit upon instructions from Commander M. W. Rasmussen, Acting Chief of Staff, Ninth Naval District, Cleveland, Ohio, on August 1, 1942. Mr. Schenk advised that with the exception of a brief trial run on July 25, 1942, the boat remained in the dock at Detroit and was not in use.

Lieutenant Commander H. A. Meyer, Commandant, Coast Guard Base, Detroit, Michigan, upon interview regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding the Coast Guard's acquisition of My Kay IV, advised that on July 17, 1942, he received a letter from Commander M. W. Rasmussen, Acting Chief of Staff at Cleveland, Ohio, advising him that the request to acquire the My Kay IV for the Coast Guard had been approved and instructing him to take over the boat from its owner. He stated that he immediately contacted Mr. Fruehauf's office and was informed that Mr. Fruehauf was on a fishing cruise on Lake Superior but that an effort would be made to contact him. He stated that several days later he received a telephone call from Mr. Fruehauf from Sault Sainte Marie and that at this time he advised Mr. Fruehauf of the order he had received from his Commandant at Cleveland. Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that he had not ordered Mr. Fruehauf to return immediately nor did he indicate that he desired the boat to be returned within any particular time limit. He stated that Mr. Fruehauf advised him that the party was en route home and could be expected in due course if the weather was favorable.

Lieutenant Commander Meyer stated that Mr. Fruehauf and his captain personally brought the boat to the Detroit Base, according to his records, at 4:00 p.m. on July 24, 1942. He stated that in addition to delivering the boat personally Mr. Fruehauf also had several of his own mechanics check the boat and make numerous needed adjustments after which they spent considerable time instructing a Coast Guard crew in the operation of the boat.

When questioned as to any information he might have regarding the origin of the story concerning Mr. Hopkins' subsequent use of this boat on his honeymoon, Lieutenant Commander Meyer stated that in his opinion the story was founded and subsequently circulated in badly mangled form on a series of events that occurred shortly after the acquisition of the boat by the Coast Guard. He stated that on July 31, 1942, he received a telephone call from Commander Rasmussen at Cleveland instructing him as to certain dispositions to be made of several boats that had been acquired by the Coast Guard from Detroiters which were then stationed at the Detroit Base awaiting an assignment. He stated that one of these boats was the My Kay IV. Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that he was instructed by Commander Rasmussen to make arrangements for securing crews to attend these boats and then issued instructions as to the points to which they were to be taken. He stated that Commander Rasmussen told him that these instructions did not apply to My Kay IV because it was to be used

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on a special mission.

With regard to this boat, the Commander advised that he was sending a special crew of three from somewhere in the Ninth Naval District to take over this boat. He informed Lieutenant Commander Meyer that he had decided to use the My Kay IV on this secret mission. Lieutenant Commander Meyer stated that Commander Rasmussen told him that he had received instructions to have a Coast Guard crew pick up a number of Canadian officials at Amherstburg, Canada, and to proceed to a point in Lake Erie off the Sandusky Ranges, where the boat was to make contact with the passenger liner the City of Cleveland. According to Lieutenant Commander Meyer, the Commandant at Cleveland told him that these Canadian officials were to confer with a "personal representative of the President" aboard the City of Cleveland, after which they were to proceed to Cleveland, where the conference was to continue more or less publicly. He stated that the Commander told him that the meeting aboard the City of Cleveland was to be highly confidential but that all subsequent events were to be given widespread publicity. Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that the Commandant did not inform him as to the identity of the "personal representative of the President" aboard the City of Cleveland. He stated that in this connection one would naturally think of Mr. Hopkins. He stated that he was then given specific instructions as to the method of procedure to be adopted in handling this matter. The log of telephone conversations at the Coast Guard Base contained these instructions but make no mention of the purpose of the meeting or of the fact that a personal representative of the President was to be aboard the City of Cleveland. These instructions disclose that the My Kay IV was to leave the Detroit Base on Saturday, August 1, 1942, and was to proceed to Amherstburg, Canada, where between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 2, 1942, it was to pick up officials (not named) of the Canadian Government and to proceed to a point off the Sandusky Ranges, where contact was to be made with the City of Cleveland.

Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that, as he had indicated in his telephone conversation, Commander Rasmussen on July 31, 1942, sent a crew of three to the Detroit Base who were to handle the My Kay IV on this trip. He stated that he did not have the names of all of the members of this crew, but it was headed by Chief Boatswain's Mate Roy L. Behling. He stated that Behling was known as a shuttle man whose duties were to transport boats, particularly private boats acquired for use of the Government, from the point of acquisition to any point in the United States in which they were needed. He stated that for this reason he was unable to advise as to the present location of Behling although he was certain that he was not in the Detroit District of the Coast Guard. Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that in spite of his desire to keep the mission of the My Kay IV a secret, it was necessary for him to contact certain officials of the Customs Service and of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in order to facilitate the trip of the Canadian officials on the high seas and ultimately through the Customs at Cleveland. This was done to obviate the necessity for a search of the baggage of these officials and a

resultant embarrassment on their part.

He stated that for this reason he contacted Mr. F. W. Watkins, District Director, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Detroit, Michigan, and Captain Joseph A. O'Rourke, United States Customs Patrol, Detroit, Michigan. He stated that in addition to these officials, it was also necessary for him to contact Lieutenant Commander Edward Bodkin, U.S.C.G.R., who was connected with the McCord Radiator Company and who devoted a large part of his time to securing personnel to man the private boats that were being acquired by the Coast Guard. Lieutenant Commander Bodkin was charged with the responsibility of acquiring the needed personnel to man the other boats docked at the Detroit Base which were mentioned by Commander Rasmussen in his telephone conversation. Lieutenant Commander Meyer further advised that these were the only persons who, to his knowledge, were aware of the secret mission of the My Kay IV.

According to the Detroit Base log, which is corroborated by the statement of Lieutenant Commander Meyer, the My Kay IV left Detroit for Cleveland at 2:50 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 1942, with its destination indicated as Cleveland, Ohio. Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that the crew was under instructions to proceed directly to Amherstburg, Canada, but due to unfavorable weather, the boat put in at Trenton, Michigan, on the night of August 1, 1942, and proceeded to Amherstburg on the following morning. Regarding the ultimate outcome of this mission, Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that he subsequently learned that the boat picked up the Canadian officials at the designated time, but because of extremely rough weather it missed its contact with the City of Cleveland and proceeded directly to Cleveland, where it discharged its passengers. He stated that as a result of missing the City of Cleveland he became somewhat alarmed on August 2, 1942, for the safety of the boat and its passengers and that it was necessary for him to inform patrol boats of the meeting between the My Kay IV and the City of Cleveland in order that they might be on the lookout for the boat. He stated that when he subsequently learned of the safe arrival of the boat at Cleveland he considered the matter a closed issue in so far as his office was concerned since he knew that the My Kay IV was not again to return to the Detroit Base but would probably be given some assignment through headquarters at Cleveland.

Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised that in his opinion this incident was in some way the basis for the rumor that was ultimately circulated regarding the use of the My Kay IV by Mr. Hopkins on his honeymoon and that it was predicated upon the assumption that despite his precautions the news of the mission of the My Kay IV to meet a "personal representative of the President" had leaked out. He stated that it was quite possible that it originated with the crew of the vessel and ultimately was disseminated and wildly distorted in circulation.

Mr. F. W. Watkins, District Director, Immigration and Naturalization

Service, Detroit, Michigan, advised that he clearly recalled Lieutenant Commander Meyer's contacting him on July 31, 1942, and requesting his assistance in securing the passage of five Canadian officials into the United States. He stated that Lieutenant Commander Meyer advised him that these arrangements were being made at the specific request of the White House and that a personal representative of the President was aboard the City of Cleveland to meet with these officials, which meeting was to be of a highly confidential nature. He stated that at the time he thought the method adopted to bring about this meeting was more spectacular than practical, but since it was none of his affair, he acceded to Lieutenant Commander Meyer's request and made appropriate arrangements for the entrance of these officials. He stated that he and his assistant, a Mr. Ross who is now retired, studied the matter and as a result were able to secure the Canadians' entry with a minimum of questioning by Customs officials. He stated that he verified the official capacity of each Canadian and in this connection, recalled that they were to be accompanied by a representative of the American Government, whose name and title he was unable to remember at the time of the interview. Mr. Watkins advised that his office had failed to make a memorandum of this matter, but he was able to secure the names of the Canadian officials aboard the My Kay IV by contacting a Mr. Longwell, Immigration and Naturalization Inspector at the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. The identities of these visitors are as follows:

- H. J. Gibeau, Director, Public Works, Province of Quebec.
- Donald Murey, Representative of the Minister of the Interior of Canada.
- Marcel Gaboury, King's Council, Head of the Provincial Police Department at Quebec.
- C. J. DeField, Chief, Windsor, Canada, Fire Department.
- J. W. Scott, Director of Fire Service and member of the Civilian Defense Committee, Province of Ontario.

Mr. Watkins advised that neither he nor Mr. Ross heard anything further concerning this matter, and since they had done all they could to facilitate the entry of these visitors, they forgot about it. He stated that he had never heard of the rumor regarding Mr. Hopkins using a requisitioned Coast Guard boat on his honeymoon and that, therefore, he would be unable to furnish any information on the origin of this rumor.

Captain Joseph A. O'Rourke, United States Customs Patrol, Detroit, Michigan, upon interview, advised that Lieutenant Commander Meyer had requested his assistance in facilitating the admission of several Canadian officials into the United States. He stated that he was aware that these officials were scheduled to hold a conference aboard the City of Cleveland and that they were to enter the United States after debarking from this boat at Cleveland. He stated that in compliance with Commander Meyer's request, he made the necessary arrangements and was not aware of any subsequent developments. He stated that he had never heard the rumor being circulated regarding Mr. Hopkins and that he could offer no information as to the possible source of this rumor.

Mr. Edward Bodkin, Advertising and Publicity Manager, McCord Radiator Company, 2587 East Grand, Detroit, Michigan, advised that he had heard the rumor concerning Mr. Hopkins on about six occasions. He stated that for the most part this rumor was related to him by newspapermen who were seeking information as to its authenticity. He stated that the rumor was also related to him by a Mr. Albert Beebe, Vice-President of W. H. Edgar and Sons Sugar Refinery, Detroit, Michigan. He stated that to the best of his knowledge Mr. Beebe told him that he heard the story in Washington, D. C. Mr. Bodkin advised that the reason why he was contacted by newspapermen regarding the story was because of his official position as a Lieutenant Commander in the Coast Guard Reserve. He stated that he devoted about fifty percent of his time to the work of the Coast Guard and that his work consisted chiefly of securing crews for private boats that had been acquired by the Coast Guard at Detroit. He stated that it was in this connection that he learned about the contemplated meeting between Canadian and United States officials aboard the City of Cleveland on August 2, 1942. In conformity with the information furnished by Lieutenant Commander Meyer, Mr. Bodkin advised that at the time Commander Rasmussen notified Lieutenant Commander Meyer of the secret mission of the My Kay IV he also notified him through Commander Meyer of the necessity for securing crews for the other boats at the Base.

Mr. Bodkin advised that it was likewise his opinion that in some way the rumor that was being circulated regarding Mr. Hopkins' use of the My Kay IV had its inception with the assignment of this boat on the mission outlined by Commander Rasmussen. He stated that to the best of his knowledge the rumor was common gossip among the "yacht crowd" at the Detroit Yacht Harbor and appears to have been well circulated among this set. He advised that Mr. Roy Fruehauf is not a member of the Detroit Yacht Club but has a membership in the Bills Point Yacht Club. He stated that it was he who first mentioned the rumor to Lieutenant Commander Meyer (Lieutenant Commander Meyer corroborated this statement) and that he recalled Lieutenant Commander Meyer subsequently calling his attention to an article which appeared in the Detroit Free Press in the column "Washington Merry Go Round" branding this story as false.

In an effort to establish the identity of the alleged "personal representative of the President" aboard the City of Cleveland, Mr. William McDonald, Superintendent of Ships, Detroit and Cleveland Navigation Company, 140 West Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan, and Captain Rudolph Kiessling of the passenger liner City of Cleveland, owned by this company, were contacted. They advised that in keeping with instructions issued by Commander Rasmussen, the City of Cleveland on August 2, 1942, put off from Cleveland for the purpose of meeting a Coast Guard cutter at a designated point off the Sandusky Ranges in Lake Erie. He stated that they were informed that high Canadian officials were aboard this cutter and that they were under instructions to pick up the party and to convey it to Cleveland, where a conference of some type was to be held. They stated that they were not informed as to the nature of this conference or

the reason for adopting this procedure of bringing the Canadian officials to port. They stated that they were under the impression at the time that Prime Minister McKenzie King of Canada would be aboard the cutter and would go ashore at Cleveland, where he was to make a talk before the Federal Employees Association of Cleveland. They were unable to advise how they received this impression regarding the presence of the Prime Minister of Canada aboard the cutter, and they advised that they could not, with any certainty, state that this information came from Commander Rasmussen. They advised that they had no knowledge of any personal representative of the President being aboard the City of Cleveland to meet this party. In this connection, they stated that the passengers aboard the City of Cleveland on this date were members of the Federal Employees Association of Cleveland who were on an excursion cruise. They further recalled that aboard the boat at the time were Mr. Daniel E. Moore, head of the Office of Civilian Defense in Cleveland, and a Mr. Edes, who was chairman of the Recreation Committee of the Federal Employees Association of Cleveland. They further recalled that both of these gentlemen were disappointed and chagrined at the failure of the City of Cleveland to meet the Coast Guard cutter and from this, they assumed that they were the American officials who were to confer with the Canadians aboard ship. They stated that the City of Cleveland kept its rendezvous at the designated point and waited for one half and hour, but the Coast Guard cutter failed to show up, which was probably due to extremely rough weather. They stated that the ship returned to Cleveland after missing the cutter and there learned that the cutter had preceded their ship into port and had discharged its passengers.

Mr. Albert Beebe, Vice-President, W. H. Edgar and Sons Sugar Refinery, 1924 West Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan, advised that he had heard the rumor around the Detroit Yacht Club, but that it was absolutely impossible for him to recall at this time who had related the story to him. He stated that he heard it for the first time sometime in August. He stated that he also overheard two men, whose identities are unknown to him, telling a similar story on a train en route from New York to Washington, D. C. He stated that the story as discussed by these two men differed in that the boat in question was supposed to have been docked somewhere in the East. He advised that he did not hear the story in Washington, D. C., as stated by Mr. Bodkin.

Captain Bob Heileman, 6135 Yorkshire Street, Detroit, Michigan, who was in charge of the My Kay IV on its last trip with Mr. Fruehauf, advised that the boat left Detroit on July 7, 1942, with Mr. and Mrs. Fruehauf and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stewart of Detroit, Michigan, aboard. He stated that the crew consisted of himself, one Frederick Bauman, who acted as steward, and one Tommy Drennan, a sailor. He stated that Bauman has since been drafted into the Army and that he did not know the present whereabouts of Drennan, who is somewhat of a floater. Captain Heileman furnished the same information regarding the cruise of the My Kay IV as that given by Mr. Fruehauf, and to avoid repetition, this information is not being again set forth. He recalled putting in at Sault Sainte Marie on the return trip to permit Mr. Fruehauf to telephone his home, and further recalled Mr. Fruehauf subsequently advising that he had been requested to deliver his boat to the Coast Guard Base at Detroit. He stated that no disappointment was felt or expressed upon the receipt of this news since the cruise was about

terminated and since Mr. Fruehauf had expected sooner or later to have his boat requisitioned. He stated that in addition, Mr. Stewart was anxious to get back to Detroit for business reasons. He stated that the return journey was made under very favorable weather conditions and that they made their trip in the excellent time of 27 hours. He stated that two days after their return, which was Friday, July 24, 1942, he and Mr. Fruehauf personally turned the boat over to the Coast Guard at Detroit, but before doing so, stripped it of all furnishings such as cushions, silverware, dishes, blankets, and similar articles. He stated that for this reason, anyone using the boat on a pleasure cruise thereafter would find it extremely uncomfortable.

Captain Heileman advised that he had heard the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' subsequent use of the My Kay IV on his honeymoon on many occasions. He stated that he has been contacted many times by newspapermen endeavoring to verify the story and has repeatedly denied that it was true. When questioned as to any information he might have regarding the origin of this story, he replied, "I think the story started right here in Detroit at the Coast Guard". When asked for his reasons for this belief, he stated that after the boat had been turned over to the Coast Guard, he had occasion to talk to one of the men who was assigned to the local Coast Guard Station. He stated that during the course of this conversation, he interrogated this Coast Guardsman concerning the whereabouts of the My Kay IV. He stated that the Coast Guardsman replied, "I guess Harry Hopkins is using it on his honeymoon". Captain Heileman was extremely reluctant to furnish the name of this Coast Guardsman, but he finally advised that this statement was made by a Mr. ~~Wilson~~ who held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade in the Coast Guard, and who at the time was engaged in surveying and inventorying private boats which had been acquired by the Coast Guard at Detroit. He stated that Lieutenant Wilson made this remark upon the occasion of a chance meeting between them at Kean's Detroit Yacht Harbor where the My Kay IV was formerly docked. He recalled that this meeting occurred on the Saturday following the Saturday after the boat was turned in, which would make this date August 1, 1942. It will be noted that this was the same day on which the My Kay IV left the Detroit Base on its so-called secret mission. He stated that upon this occasion, Lieutenant Wilson was at Kean's Detroit Yacht Harbor in connection with some other boats that were at the Harbor which the Coast Guard was considering acquiring. He stated that before preponderating the question concerning the whereabouts of the My Kay IV, he and Lieutenant Wilson discussed the boat with particular reference to a bad generator and some defective wiring. Captain Heileman advised that he knew that the boat had been taken from its Detroit base and that his interest in its destination and ultimate assignment was only natural. He further advised that he had a vague recollection of others being present at the time Lieutenant Wilson made this statement, but he stated it would be impossible for him to recall who they were. He stated that he was not certain if these persons heard Lieutenant Wilson's remark. He was unable to recall exactly when he told Mr. Fruehauf of the information he had received from Lieutenant Wilson, but he admitted that he did tell the former owner of the boat that he had heard that Mr. Hopkins was going to use the boat on his honeymoon and that he was certain from the way that Mr. Fruehauf received this in-

formation that it was the first time that he had heard it.

In this connection, Captain Heileman stated, "After I told the story to Mr. Fruehauf, he, being anti-Administration, probably told the story to others. You know how those things go". In answer to the question as to whether he knew definitely if Mr. Fruehauf had repeated the story, Captain Heileman stated that he had absolutely no definite information in this regard and further that this assumption was merely guess work on his part.

In view of the discrepancy between the statement made by Captain Heileman to the effect that he was the first one to relate the story concerning Mr. Hopkins to Mr. Fruehauf and Mr. Fruehauf's statement that he first learned of the story from the Associated Press about a week after the My Kay IV had been turned in, Mr. Fruehauf was again contacted. Mr. Fruehauf, in this second interview, advised that to the best of his recollection the story originally was related to him by the Associated Press but that there was a possibility he was mistaken in this regard in view of the time that had elapsed and in view of the many inquiries he had received concerning this story. He admitted that it was possible that the story might have originally been told him by Captain Heileman although he was still more or less of the opinion that it came to him for the first time from the Associated Press. In fixing a definite date when he first heard this story, Mr. Fruehauf recalled that he did not hear it prior to August 1, 1942, because up until that time, he had been at the office on only two days for an hour or so on each date and he knew that he was not aware of it then. He stated that therefore he could fix the date when he first heard the story as sometime during the week commencing August 2, because he made a one-day trip to Washington, D. C., leaving Sunday, August 9, 1942, and returning Tuesday, August 11, 1942. He clearly recalled that he was aware of the story at the time he departed for Washington. Mr. Fruehauf was asked if he had ever repeated the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' alleged use of his boat and he replied that he had not and further that he had consistently told persons inquiring that the story was not true.

Mr. Marvin ~~Kean~~, owner of Kean's Detroit Yacht Harbor where the Fruehauf boat, My Kay IV, was docked prior to its acquisition by the Coast Guard, was contacted. Mr. Kean advised that he recalled hearing the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' use of the My Kay IV and stated that to the best of his recollection, it was Captain Heileman who told it to him. He stated that he paid no attention to the story and did not repeat it because from years of experience on the waterfront he knew that this region was a great source of misinformation and that rumors once spread in this area circulated rapidly. He stated that he did not know where Captain Heileman got his information and did not ask him. He advised that he was unable to inform as to the names of any other individuals who might be in a position to furnish some information as to the origin of this story.

Mr. J. N. ~~Fauver~~ of J. N. Fauver Incorporated, 52 West Hancock Avenue Detroit, Michigan, was contacted. Mr. Fauver on August 14, 1942, wrote a letter to the Honorable Prentiss M. ~~Brown~~, United States Senator from Michigan, in which

he advised of the rumor that was being circulated regarding Mr. Hopkins and his use of the Fruehauf boat, which letter was subsequently referred to the Bureau. Mr. Fauver advised that he heard this story for the first time on the date of his letter and that he was so incensed by it that he immediately wrote to Senator Brown. He stated that the story was related to him at a luncheon on this date by Nicholas R. Kerns who was employed as a salesman for his company. He stated that he could not advise where Mr. Kerns heard the story but that he did know that Mr. Kerns' wife and Mrs. Fruehauf, the wife of Roy Fruehauf, were intimate friends. He stated that he did not know if Mrs. Fruehauf had related the story to Mrs. Kerns.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas R. Kerns, 22536 Alexander Drive, Grosse Point Shores, Michigan, were contacted. Mrs. Kerns advised that she told the story to her husband and that she had heard it for the first time at a sorority bridge party which had taken place sometime in the early part of August. She stated that it would be impossible for her to inform as to the identity of any particular person who related the story because there were fifteen women present at the party and all of them were discussing it. She stated that Mrs. Roy Fruehauf is a member of this sorority but was not present at this particular bridge party. When questioned as to anything that was said at this party which might indicate the source of this story, she advised that she was certain from the trend of the conversation that the story had originally come from Mrs. Fruehauf. Mrs. Kerns stated that it was also intimated during the general discussion of the story that Mrs. Fruehauf heard it through some unidentified source at the harbor where the boat was formerly docked. She stated that this source was not mentioned in the conversation at this party and that she doubted very much if any of those present knew or were interested in how the story started.

Mrs. Roy Fruehauf, 15621 Windmill Point, Grosse Point, Michigan, was telephonically contacted for an appointment to discuss this matter. She stated that due to the fact that she had guests from Kansas City in her home who were taking every minute of her time, it would be impossible for her to provide an opportunity for a personal interview. In view of this, the following information was elicited from her over the telephone. She advised that she heard the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' use of the My Kay IV on his honeymoon at a bridge party. She stated that eight women were present at this party and that she was unable to recall the identity of the person who told it to her or the date and place of the party. She stated that she did not know how the story originated. She stated that while she knew that the portion of the story relating to their forced return from a vacation cruise to turn over the boat to the Government was untrue, she did not know if Mr. Hopkins had subsequently used their boat on a honeymoon. She stated that she did not know that there was no basis for this story until she read a denial in the column "Washington Merry Go Round" published in the Detroit Free

Press. She stated that she had absolutely no knowledge that the story was originally related by Captain Heileman, and she denied that she had ever stated that the story in its incipient stages was circulated at Kean's Detroit Yacht Harbor. She advised that this was all of the information that she could furnish in connection with this matter in spite of the fact that she was extremely anxious to cooperate to the fullest extent and to do everything in her power to assist in ferreting out the source of this story which had caused them no end of concern.

The records of the United States Coast Guard, Detroit, Michigan, disclosed that Leon D. W. Wilson was an Ensign in the United States Coast Guard Reserve and not a Lieutenant Junior Grade as related by Captain Heileman. These records reflect that he was assigned to Detroit from July 21, 1942, to August 29, 1942, and on the latter date was transferred to Noroton, Connecticut, where he was to attend a Naval Communications School.

Ensign Leon D. W. Wilson was contacted at the Naval Communications School, Noroton, Connecticut, and was interviewed with reference to this case. He advised that during the time he was assigned to the Detroit Base of the United States Coast Guard, he was engaged in surveying, appraising, and inventorying private boats in connection with their acquisition by the Coast Guard. Ensign Wilson advised that he made the final survey of the My Kay IV after it was received at the Detroit Base on July 24, 1942, and he recalled that he met Captain Bob Heileman at this time. He stated that he saw him again on Saturday, August 1, 1942, at Kean's Detroit Yacht Harbor, where he often went to inspect private boats for possible acquisition by the Coast Guard.

Ensign Wilson stated that the My Kay IV was an extremely attractive boat and that for this reason there was much discussion among the personnel at the Detroit Base as to what use would eventually be made of her. He admitted hearing a rumor that Mr. Hopkins was going to use the My Kay IV on his honeymoon and stated that he heard this rumor for the first time about a week after the boat had been acquired by the Coast Guard. He stated that at this time a chief petty officer had arrived at the Base to take the My Kay IV from Detroit. He advised that there was much secrecy concerning the destination of the My Kay IV and that he was never informed where she was going or why a special crew was to handle her. He stated that on the day this chief petty officer arrived in Detroit he heard for the first time the rumor that Mr. Hopkins was going to use the My Kay IV on his honeymoon. He advised that he is definitely of the opinion that the story concerning Mr. Hopkins' use of the boat was in some way predicated upon the presence of this chief petty officer at the Base and the secrecy surrounding the destination of the boat. He stated that he had no contact with this petty officer but that he knew his name to be Behling and that he had been designated to handle the My Kay IV. When questioned as to the extent to which this rumor had been circulated at the Base, he replied that he

heard several men discussing it, but he was unable to recall the names of these men or to advise if they were still stationed in Detroit. Ensign Wilson advised that he recalled talking to Captain Heileman around August 1 concerning the condition of the My Kay IV, but denied that at this time he had told Captain Heileman that the boat was to be used by Mr. Hopkins on his honeymoon. He stated that he did not discuss with Captain Heileman what use of the My Kay IV was contemplated by the Coast Guard and further that he had a vague recollection of Captain Heileman mentioning this story to him. He stated further that Captain Heileman might possibly have heard this story from another Coast Guardsman since it was making the rounds of the Base just about the time he talked to Captain Heileman.

A signed statement incorporating the above information was obtained from Ensign Wilson and is being made a part of the Bureau's file in this case.

Mr. Carl Stewart, Vice-President of the Service Engraving Company, Incorporated, 85 West Canfield Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, was contacted. Mr. Stewart and his wife were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fruehauf upon the occasion of the last cruise of the My Kay IV. Mr. Stewart stated that he and his wife had made many trips with Mr. and Mrs. Fruehauf on this boat. He furnished substantially the same information as that given by Mr. Fruehauf and Captain Heileman regarding the details of this cruise and emphasized the fact that when they received word at Sault Sainte Marie that the Coast Guard was awaiting the return of the boat to convert it to war use, they were not in the least inconvenienced. He stated that it was essential that he return to Detroit immediately and that they were in the act of doing so when Mr. Fruehauf received the message. In this connection, he stated that although the boat made excellent time on the return trip due to unusually favorable weather, they were not requested by the Coast Guard to return within a specified time. He stated that it was about two weeks after their return that he was questioned for the first time with reference to the rumor that the Coast Guard had taken the boat for the use of Mr. Hopkins on his honeymoon. He stated that the first inquiry was made by telephone and that it came from an advertising executive in Detroit. He stated that it would serve no useful purpose to furnish the name of this individual since he was only one of the many who had heard the story and had contacted him. Mr. Stewart advised that immediately thereafter he was deluged with calls and personal inquiries concerning this rumor. He stated that these inquiries came from all of the local newspapers, several magazines, and particularly from advertising agencies. He stated that in answer to each inquiry, he advised that he was on the boat as he had been on many other occasions and that to his knowledge the Coast Guard did not force their return to Detroit in order to take over the boat. He stated that he further informed all inquirers that he had absolutely no information that the story regarding Mr. Hopkins' subsequent use of the boat on his honeymoon was true. He stated that the persons inquiring were most anxious to have him confirm the story and were insistent to the point of exasperation that he do so. He also advised that some of them even reported that he and his party were forcibly ejected from the boat. Many of them wanted to know the exact point where they were ejected.

Mr. Stewart advised that he did not have the remotest idea of how the story originated but that he did know that Mr. Fruehauf did not start it or further it. He stated that because of his close association with Mr. Fruehauf, he knew that he has been worried to the point of panic ever since the story started and that he is gravely concerned over the possibility that its repercussion might ultimately affect his business, a large percentage of which is engaged in war production.

INFORMATION FURNISHED BY PERSONS INTERVIEWED AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Raymond N. Beebe, an attorney and member of the law firm of Davies, Richberg, Beebe, Busick, 815 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., was contacted. Mr. Beebe was the recipient of a letter dated September 9, 1942, from Mr. E. Willoughby Middleton, an attorney in Rochester, New York, in which Mr. Middleton requested him to ascertain from Mr. Early whether there was any truth in the story being circulated around Rochester regarding Mr. Hopkins' use of a Government vessel on his honeymoon. Mr. Beebe advised that he learned of this rumor for the first time through the medium of Mr. Middleton's letter and that he had not heard the story since. He stated that he immediately brought the letter to the attention of Mr. Early and subsequently advised Mr. Middleton of Mr. Early's reply branding the story as false. Mr. Beebe, in the presence of the interviewing Agent, telephonically communicated with Mr. Middleton at Rochester and advised him of the presence of the Agent in his office and of the nature of instant investigation.

At this time, Agent engaged in a brief conversation with Mr. Middleton, during the course of which he stated that he had information which indicated that the story regarding Mr. Hopkins was started in Rochester by Mr. Fulton Lewis. He declined to elaborate upon this information over the telephone and stated that he much preferred to be interviewed personally. He advised that in addition to this particular case he would like to have the opportunity to discuss other conditions in Rochester with an Agent of this Bureau and requested the interviewing Agent to put him in touch with the Bureau's local representative in Rochester. He was advised that he would be contacted by a representative of this Bureau in the immediate future, within a week if possible, at which time instant matter and the other things he had in mind would be discussed with him.

Mr. and Mrs. William Stanley, 2701 Chesapeake, N.W., Washington, D. C., were interviewed. Mrs. Stanley advised that she heard the story regarding Mr. Hopkins at a Red Cross meeting which occurred on September 14, 1942. She stated that the story was related to her by Mrs. Evelyn Dolph of the Westchester Apartments, who is the wife of William B. Dolph, an executive of Radio Station WOL. She stated that there were eight women present at this gathering, and it was apparently the first time any of them had heard the story. She stated that since this time she has learned that the same story was being circulated widely. She stated that she told the story to her husband and that he in turn referred it to Mr. Early.

Mr. William Stanley advised that subsequent to informing Mr. Early of the story being circulated involving Mr. Hopkins, he made a trip to New York City and while there, he heard the same story repeated. He stated that he had formulated an opinion as to the probable origin of this story but that he was not at liberty to divulge this information in the absence of certain verification, which he was endeavoring to obtain. He promised to advise the interviewing Agent of the results of his endeavors.

Mrs. Evelyn Dolph, Westchester Apartments, Washington, D. C., was contacted with reference to this matter. She advised that she had related the story to Mrs. Stanley and that she in turn had heard it from a woman whose name she did not care to divulge. She stated that she was certain that this woman had no idea as to where the story originated and was merely repeating it herself. She stated that under these circumstances, she did not feel at liberty to disclose the name of this individual.

Respectfully,


D. M. Ladd



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.
September 22, 1942

PJW:RFK
Call 6:05 PM
Typed 9:30 PM

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____ b6
Mr. Harbo _____ b7C
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

Reference is made to the previous telephonic conversation with Special Agent Mulroy at Detroit regarding the Harry Hopkins situation. Pursuant to your instructions I telephonically contacted Agent Mulroy and advised him that he should not proceed to Cleveland but should recontact the former Captain of My K IV and obtain from him the name of the Coast Guardsman from whom the captain received this information..

I brought to Mr. Mulroy's attention that you thought it would be a good idea to impress the captain with the fact that this rumor is a definite interference with the war effort and it is absolutely necessary that we get to the bottom of it. He was further advised to tell the captain that unless he, the captain, will not voluntarily disclose the name of the Coast Guardsman we will have to bring him before a grand jury inquiry and obtain it that way.

Agent Mulroy stated that if he uses this method of obtaining information it will stir up a lot of trouble with the Coast Guard and he further stated that he is not absolutely sure himself that the statement that the Coast Guardsman started this thing is correct. I told Agent Mulroy that whether or not the story was true the fact still remains that this Coast Guardsman might be able to furnish a lead which when traced down will disclose the source of the whole thing.

Mr. Mulroy mentioned the fact that this story is all over Detroit, the incident is much talked about, and it is quite discouraging to follow up on these many leads only to have them amount to nothing. However, he said he would recontact the captain and try to con him into giving us the desired information. I suggested that he take another Agent along with him to impress the captain whereupon Agent Mulroy advised he had done this before upon the occasion of the initial interview.

Another point brought up by Agent Mulroy was that the several members of the Coast Guard previously contacted by him have no idea that they contributed anything to the source of this story inasmuch as he more or less conned them into giving him some information. However, Mr. Mulroy stated, when they realize their statements might point to the Coast Guard as being at fault, then they will undoubtedly be much more difficult to deal with. I told Agent Mulroy that our primary intention was to run this rumor down and not to make trouble for the Coast Guard but should our efforts along these lines reveal the Coast Guard at fault then that was

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OCT 13 1942

Memorandum for Mr. E. A. Tamm

- 2 -

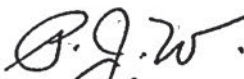
September 22, 1942

their tough luck.

Relative to the extent of the comment on this situation Mr. Mulroy stated that each individual he contacted had heard the story from several other people and it was impossible to run it down to any definite source that way. He further advised that the papers have been hounding Freuhauf and the captain of the boat in an effort to get a story from them and that they are just now starting to take the pressure off these two individuals.

I emphatically pointed out to Mulroy that you desired we obtain the name of the Coast Guardsman involved and we should exhaust every lead in an effort to do this. He said he would recontact the captain and endeavor to get the name as you suggested and having once obtained that he would clean up the whole angle as far as the Coast Guardsman is concerned.

Respectfully,


P. J. Wacks



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____ b6
Mr. Hendon _____ b7C
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
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Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

PJW:JDR

Call 3:20 PM

Typed 3:30 PM

September 22, 1942

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DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

In connection with the rumors involving Harry Hopkins and his alleged trip aboard a government boat, Special Agent Joseph Mulroy telephonically advised with reference to this the following information:

He has some facts from which he thought it could be inferred how the story got going. One of the sources he contacted made him believe the rumor got started through the Coast Guard itself. He talked to a captain who captained the Fruehauf boat at the time it was turned over to the Coast Guard and captained the boat on its last voyage before being turned over. He said he first received the information from a young fellow who was a member of the Coast Guard who he happened to ask how his boat was getting along and what was done with it; the young fellow replied he supposed Harry Hopkins was using it on his honeymoon. No amount of persuasion would induce the captain to give the name of the young man who said this.

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Agent Mulroy said what was more important was that on July 31 a commandant in charge of the Cleveland office of the Coast Guard called the commandant in charge of the Detroit office and told him he was talking to him with reference to the disposition of several boats the Detroit office was holding which had been acquired 1942 Coast Guard use. He gave the dispositions on all except the My K IV which was the Fruehauf boat; that boat was to proceed to Amherstburg, Canada, where it was to pick up five officials of the Canadian government who were to then go to a point in the lake to meet the passenger liner City of Cleveland; upon meeting the liner, the Canadian officials were to be discharged from the My K, and they were to hold a discussion with a personal representative of the President. The Cleveland commandant also told the Detroit commandant that he had information this was being done at the express request of the White House and that it was very confidential. As matters turned out, the My K with the Canadian officials aboard missed the City of Cleveland and had to go ashore at Cleveland. The Detroit commandant is of the opinion this whole story could have come out of that incident in a badly mangled form in that it could have been spread about that this personal representative of the President was Harry Hopkins. From the instructions it was concluded that the representative was Harry Hopkins.



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Memo for Mr. E. A. Tamm

September 22, 1942

Mr. Mulroy plans to talk to Commandant Rasmussen at Cleveland to find out what made him think the personal representative of the President was on the City of Cleveland and whether he actually used the name of Harry Hopkins. Mr. Mulroy observed that the Commandant would not admit he used the name, but Mr. Mulroy has from several sources in Detroit information that Rasmussen did say it was a personal representative of the President.

Mr. Mulroy thought there was little chance of getting the name of the Coast Guardsman referred to by the captain of the Fruehauf boat because when he saw that Mr. Mulroy was bearing down on the name of the Coast Guardsman, he changed his story and said this young fellow probably heard it from several others just as he had. I inquired whether Mr. Mulroy told the captain we are merely trying to trace the source without any thought of going farther. Mr. Mulroy said he told the captain that we only wanted to find out if the story was started deliberately for some ulterior purpose or if it was just started through gossip, and if it was gossip we were dropping out and nothing would be said or done about it, but this did not influence the captain. I inquired if he might not get the name if he returned to the captain and told him it is rather important that we have it, that we do not intend to proceed against the Coast Guardsman whom, evidently, he is trying to protect, that all we want to know is where the Coast Guardsman got his information, that on Mr. Mulroy's giving his information to his office, it was indicated it was desirable to get the name of the Coast Guardsman whose identity will not be revealed. Mr. Mulroy was doubtful whether the captain would give the name, but indicated he could go back if it was so desired. I told him I would leave it to him since he was on the ground and knew the attitude of the captain.

With reference to the possibility of the story getting out from the Detroit commandant, Mr. Mulroy said the commandant has said he does not see how it is possible because only himself, an Immigration man, and the Cleveland commandant ~~was~~ knew about it.

Mr. Mulroy said he talked to Fruehauf and said he was very cooperative; Fruehauf said he was the victim of the matter.

Mr. Mulroy is going to interview Commandant Rasmussen to enlist his aid in determining whether this story is malicious or deliberate. He has talked to several Coast Guardsmen already and felt talking to one more will not make any difference. He also wants to find out from Rasmussen the name of the skipper who took the party of Canadian officials on the boat. Mr. Mulroy thought it was possible he might have started the story.

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Memo for Mr. E. A. Tamm

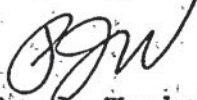
September 22, 1942

I suggested to Mr. Mulroy that he contact the Cleveland office to check and find out whether the Bureau has had any trouble with Rasmussen.

Mr. Mulroy will leave Detroit for Cleveland at 5:30 P.M. this afternoon, and he will arrive at Cleveland at 8:30 P.M.; he will call the Cleveland office when he arrives there; in the meantime he can be reached at Detroit.

I told Mr. Mulroy this information would be transmitted to you today.

Respectfully,


P. J. Wacks

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 23, 1942

PJW:DMP
Rec'd 4:40 P.M.
Typed 5:00 P.M.

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DATE 10/4/85 BY [redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____ b6
Mr. Harbo _____ b7C
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

Special Agent Joseph Mulroy called from Detroit with further reference to the Harry Hopkins rumor, advising that he has again talked with Fruehauf. He asked Fruehauf if he recalled his conversation with Captain Heilman wherein Captain Heilman advised him of the rumor and Fruehauf stated that he did. He stated however that he had, as he recalls it, already learned of the rumor from the Associated Press inquiry. He placed the time of his conversation with Captain Heilman as being during the week of August 9th, which is subsequent to the time that the Coast Guardsman made the statement to Captain Heilman. Agent Mulroy stated he asked Fruehauf point blank whether he had related the story to anyone and Fruehauf replied that he had not, that in fact he had done everything in his power to kill the story. When asked if he knew the name of the person connected with Associated Press who called him, he advised that he did not and that he has received numerous calls from Associated Press since that time on other matters. Agent Mulroy is inclined to feel that Fruehauf is not telling the truth although Captain Heilman had stated that he gathered from Fruehauf's attitude when he told him the rumor that he, Fruehauf, knew nothing about it.

I told Agent Mulroy that I had talked with you about interviewing Lieutenant Wilson of the Coast Guard and that you definitely want him interviewed. I pointed out to Agent Mulroy that the White House has given us the green light to go ahead and trace this rumor down which protects us in contacting the Lieutenant.

Agent Mulroy will advise us of the results of his interview with Lieutenant Wilson.

Respectfully,

Peter J. Wacks

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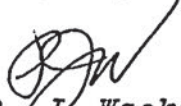
September 23, 1942

that they had received a report from their Chicago representative that the honeymoon trip had actually occurred. Fruehauf did not mention his conversation with Captain Heilman and Mr. Mulroy feels that Fruehauf is giving him the run-around.

Mr. Mulroy desired to know whether he should again contact Fruehauf. I suggested to him that he do this, not accusing Fruehauf of spreading the story but telling him that we have information which would indicate that he received the story from another source and thought possibly it might refresh his memory; also to obtain from him if possible the names of persons to whom he might have given the story inasmuch as it may have reached the Associated Press through one of his friends. I told Mr. Mulroy to impress upon Fruehauf that we are interested only in tracing the rumor down and killing it because of its effect.

Mr. Mulroy asked about talking with Lieutenant Wilson, pointing out the danger involved in such action and desired clearance from you with regard to interviewing the Coast Guardsman. I advised Mulroy to go ahead and interview Fruehauf and I would obtain authorization from you relative to the interviewing of the Coast Guardsman.

Respectfully,


P. J. Wacks

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

September 23, 1942

PJW:DMP

Rec'd 1:25 P.M.

Typed 3:00 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

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DATE 10/1/85 BY [redacted]

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____ b6
Miss Beahm _____ b7C
Miss Gandy _____

With reference to the Harry Hopkins rumor, Special Agent Joseph Mulroy called from Detroit advising that he had talked with a Captain Heilman who gave him the name of a Lieutenant, J.G. Wilson, first name unknown by Captain Heilman. Captain Heilman stated that Wilson was attached to the Coast Guard Station in Detroit and it is assumed that he is still there, although Mr. Mulroy has not gone into this angle as yet. Captain Heilman states that he first met Wilson on July 24th at which time Wilson was in charge of the crew which checked in the boat in question. He again saw Wilson on August 1st at the boat yard where Fruehauf formerly kept the boat before it was turned over to the Coast Guard. Captain Heilman talked with Wilson about the boat, discussing its motor, et cetera, and finally asked him what he thought the Coast Guard was going to use the boat for, to which Wilson allegedly replied, "Oh, I suppose Harry Hopkins wants this boat on his honeymoon."

Captain Heilman states this is the first time he heard the rumor and he is fairly certain this is its source. However, Mr. Mulroy pointed out that Wilson could have heard it from someone else.

Mr. Mulroy stated the date, August 1st, is the same as that on which the boat was to take the five Canadian representatives out to meet a representative of the President.

Captain Heilman told Mr. Mulroy that after he received the information from Wilson he contacted Mr. Fruehauf and that Fruehauf, in Captain Heilman's opinion, being anti-administration, was glad to receive such news and possibly spread the story around that the government had taken over his boat so Harry Hopkins could take it on his honeymoon.

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In regard to Mr. Fruehauf, Mr. Mulroy talked with him before he talked with Captain Heilman, at which time Fruehauf stated that he first heard the rumor when contacted by the Associated Press by telephone. The Associated Press allegedly advised him

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Memorandum for Mr. Tamm

September 24, 1942

I inquired of Mr. Mulroy as to Ensign Wilson's connection with the boat in question and he advised Wilson was a surveyor and also maintained an inventory of the boat taken at the time it first came in on July 24th, which date is also the time the Captain of the boat and Wilson became acquainted. These two met again at the former dock of the MY K IV, at which time the question was asked as to the destination of the boat, where it was going, and what was to be done with it.

When asked under whom was Wilson working at the time of this activity, Mulroy stated Wilson was travelling between the former dock of the boat and the Detroit base and was surveying any other boats which happened to be between those two points. His immediate superior officer was Commander Meyer, the same person Mr. Mulroy had contacted in an effort to get some information as to Wilson's whereabouts. I then mentioned to Mulroy that this Commander may have either directly or indirectly inferred that a representative of the President was to take over the boat and his statement may have been construed by the Coast Guard as meaning Hopkins.

Mr. Mulroy also advised that at the time of the second contact between the Captain and Ensign Wilson, the MY K IV was a closed deal, it had been turned over to the Detroit base, and Ensign Wilson was there for the purpose of surveying another boat.

Agent Mulroy is quite convinced that the Captain lost not a moment in brining the news of Harry Hopkins' using the MY K IV to the attention of Freuhauf and therein lies the start of the whole rumor. He substantiated this conviction by citing an incident related to him by a woman who is a sorority sister of Mrs. Freuhauf. At a bridge party attended by about fifteen women this story was told and the person telling it was a personal and close friend of Mrs. Freuhauf. Agent Mulroy was unable to get the name of this person but he knows she obtained the story from Mrs. Freuhauf who in turn got it from the Captain at the dock.

Respectfully,


P. J. Wacks

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

September 24, 1942

PJW:RFK:AJ

Call 3:50 PM

Typed 5:50 PM

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____ b6
Mr. Kramer _____ b7C
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

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DATE 12/4/85 BY

Mr. Mulroy called from Detroit in reference to the Harry Hopkins case and advised that Ensign Wilson (formerly referred to as being Lt. Wilson, j.g.) is presently in Noroton, Connecticut, where he is attending a naval communications school. He further advised that Noroton is about thirty-six miles from New York and Ensign Wilson was transferred there on August 29th.

Mr. Mulroy stated that his instructions in handling this matter were to go wherever was necessary in order to successfully cover the assignment and he was wondering as to the advisability of his contacting Ensign Wilson at Noroton, Connecticut. I advised Mulroy that if he thought the Ensign was the instigator of this rumor or a link in the chain of individuals who spread the information he should be interviewed to definitely determine the source of the rumor. Mr. Mulroy stated that Wilson is his only lead; that he has been trying to get some information from Wilson's associates which would eliminate the necessity of the Noroton contact, and that he is convinced the story originated with the Captain from information received from Ensign Wilson. The big problem is now to get Ensign Wilson to admit he supplied the aforementioned information to the Captain.

I asked Mr. Mulroy if there were any of Wilson's old friends still in that area and he advised the Captain informed him that Wilson had been well known while he was stationed there but since this incident about seventy-five per cent of the personnel has been transferred out of that area. He further advised that the Commander knew Wilson well and he, the Commander, was not aware of the reason he was being asked of the whereabouts of Ensign Wilson.

I mentioned to Mr. Mulroy the possibility of the Commander having been the person who first gave the information to Ensign Wilson, either by orders or by some comment he may have made at the time such orders were issued. Mr. Mulroy stated he had been advised by the Commander that Ensign Wilson knew nothing about it. Mr. Mulroy also stated he has accounted for all the time the boat was there and he also has a list of the persons to whom the Commander mentioned this matter.



348 OCT 28 1964

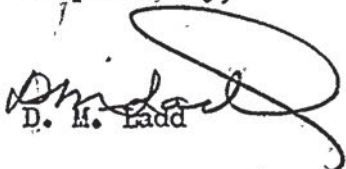
Mr. William B. Dolph, Manager of Radio Station WOL, upon interview, advised that the story was related to him around the latter part of August over the telephone, by a friend of his in New York. He stated that he did not feel at liberty to disclose the name of his informant. He stated however, that this individual would be in Washington shortly and that he would make him available for interview. Subsequently, Mr. Dolph telephonically advised that the source of his information was a Mr. Herbert L. Pettey, Manager of Radio Station WHN in New York City, who was then in his office and had given his consent to Mr. Dolph to identify him as the person who had related the story regarding Mr. Hopkins to him.

The information furnished by Mr. Fulton Lewis, Jr., was made a part of the memorandum which was submitted to Mr. Hopkins reflecting the results of interviews conducted during the course of this investigation, which might be of interest to him.

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Mr. Herbert L. Pettey, Manager of Radio Station WHN, and according to his own statement, former Secretary of the Federal Communications Commission, advised that he had received the story as a news tip from Mr. Paul Willis, Secretary of the National Retail Manufacturers Association, a grocers' cooperative organization in New York City. He stated that he knew the source of Mr. Willis' information but stated that it would be up to Mr. Willis to disclose the identity of this person. Mr. Pettey advised that at first he was interested in verifying the story but that he dropped it when he subsequently learned that Mr. Fulton Ousler of Liberty Magazine had written to Mr. Roy Fruehauf to determine if there was any basis for this story and had received a reply from Mr. Fruehauf stating that the story was false. Mr. Pettey further advised that sometime ago he learned that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was investigating this rumor from Mr. Dolph who had told him that a representative of this Bureau had contacted his wife regarding the story which she was known to have repeated. He stated that in anticipation of a possible Bureau contact with him, he asked Mr. Willis if it would be alright for him to name him as the source of his information. He stated that Mr. Willis advised him that he had absolutely no objection to this.

The advisability of contacting Mr. Willis is questionable since there is nothing to indicate that his testimony would in itself be of any value in disclosing the source of this story which has been established by previous investigation.

Respectfully,


D. M. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/85 BY [redacted]

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b7c

KW

62.59396-15

CANCELLED

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:DS

September 16, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Mr. Carson ☒ b6
Mr. Coffey ☒ b7C
Mr. Hendon ☒
Mr. Kramer ☒
Mr. McGuire ☒
Mr. Harbo ☒
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Mr. Nease ☒
Miss Beahm ☒
Miss Gandy ☒

Subsequent to the call which you received from Mr. Harry Hopkins advising that a rumor was being circulated alleging that he, Hopkins, had utilized a Navy vessel for his honeymoon trip, you will recall that Mr. Hopkins requested an investigation be made of the source of this rumor and advised that Mr. Steve Early at the White House had all of the details. Pursuant to your instructions, I called upon Mr. Steve Early and he advised me that on September 9th, Mr. E. W. Middleton, a prominent attorney of Rochester, New York, who has been very loyal to the President, addressed a letter to Mr. Raymond N. Beebe of 815 - 15th Street, Washington, D. C., in which Mr. Middleton stated that a story was being circulated in Rochester which was undermining confidence in the Government. Mr. Middleton asked Mr. Beebe to approach Mr. Early and find out whether the story was true, and if it was false, to obtain a signed statement from Mr. Early to that effect.

The story being circulated was written up in a memorandum which was transmitted with Mr. Middleton's letter and is as follows:

A gentleman owning a yacht with a crew of eight men, being patriotic and eager to help the Government in its present need, offered his yacht and his crew of eight men to the President for the duration. He made one stipulation - that inasmuch as he had had no vacation, and had worked very hard in war duties, he might have on the yacht before turning it over, a two weeks' holiday at his own expense. The yacht and crew were accepted with the agreement that he would have it for two weeks, the papers were signed and the deal was closed. The gentleman then started on this trip and was gone for 24 hours, when he received a radiogram saying that the boat was needed at once for an important mission and would he return immediately. He did and turned his boat and crew over to the government. Later, he met the captain, who said to him - "Well, that was some trip we had". The gentleman said - "What was the trip?" The captain replied - "We took Harry Hopkins and his bride on their honeymoon". The owner of the yacht did not think that it could be true, so he tracked down and got affidavits from everyone to prove that it was true. The story winds up "And Now you see

what kind of a Government you have".

Get to bottom of this as soon as possible. N.

FOR DEFENSE

BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

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348 OCT 22 1964

51 OCT 30 1942

Mr. Early stated that when this story was received Mr. Hopkins was at Hyde Park, and accordingly he waited until Mr. Hopkins returned and talked to him about the story. Mr. Hopkins stated that the story was untrue, that he had spent his honeymoon on a farm in Connecticut and that he had not before his marriage or subsequent to it made any trip on any boat whatsoever. Hopkins indicated, however, that he had heard this story from other sources.

Steve Early then addressed to Mr. Beebe a letter dated September 16th denying the entire story. Apparently, however, the Early letter to Beebe was not received by Beebe because he departed for a summer cottage which he maintains at Felicity Cove, which is near Shadyside, Maryland. Beebe's cottage faces Chesapeake Bay on the road to Idlewilde Point.

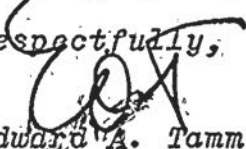
Early stated that today Mr. William Stanley had told him a similar story indicating that Mrs. William Stanley had heard this story at a Red Cross meeting. In addition, Mrs. Stanley stated that the story which she had heard indicated that the affidavits of the crew members had been sent by the boat owner to Mr. Westbrook Pegler. Mr. Stanley stated to Mr. Early that the name of the man who was supposed to be the boat owner and the one who had started the story was "Freehoffer" and that he operated a big trucking business. I inquired of Mr. Early whether this did not possibly refer to Mr. Freuhauser. Mr. Early did not know, but in my presence, he called Mrs. Stanley who, after some deliberation, was of the opinion that possibly the name of the man was Freuhauser and he was supposed to have a big trucking or bus business, and to own a number of boats.

Mr. Early requested that the story be run down completely in order that the identity of the person responsible for the circulation of such rumors might be determined. He turned over to me the reference letter from Mr. Middleton with its enclosure, a copy of Mr. Early's letter to Mr. Beebe, and a copy of a letter which he, Early, had written to Mr. Stanley enclosing a copy of his letter to Mr. Beebe. I told Mr. Early that all of these documents would be returned to him in due course.

Mr. Early stated that he had heard some place that the Navy Department might have checked into these allegations or this story, and he suggested that we inquire of Naval Intelligence whether they knew anything about this matter.

In accord with our discussion of this matter, Supervisor Joseph Mulroy of Mr. Ladd's Division is initiating appropriate inquiries upon this matter at once.

Respectfully,


Edward A. Tamm

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



PJW:DMP
Rec'd 10:22 A.M.
Typed 11:00 A.M.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

September 25, 1942

CC-287

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____ b6
Miss Gandy _____ b7C

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

Special Agent Mulroy called from Detroit advising that he has talked with Mrs. Fruehauf in connection with the Harry Hopkins rumor. Mrs. Fruehauf stated that she first heard the story at a bridge party at which eight women were in attendance. She could not recall who told the story nor could she remember the exact date of the party. She stated she had no information indicating the original source of the story to be on the docks, neither did she know how the Associated Press got the story. She informed Agent Mulroy that she did repeat the story and believed it to be true until she read Drew Pearson's column. Insofar as any contacts Captain Heilman had with her husband, she stated she knew nothing about this. She stated that her husband did tell her the story but that she had already heard it at the bridge party. In answer to my inquiry Agent Mulroy stated he does not believe that she is telling the truth.

Agent Mulroy stated a Mrs. Kearns (Phonetic) has a story similar to the one told by Mrs. Fruehauf with the exception that she says she heard the story at a meeting at which 15 women were present. She states positively that the general trend of the conversation at that time indicated that the story had come directly through Mrs. Fruehauf and that the story originated at the docks.

Agent Mulroy stated he has no other leads to follow up in Detroit. He is going to Noroton, Connecticut today for the purpose of interviewing Ensign Wilson if he can be located. Another Agent in the Detroit Office is familiar with the details in this case and can handle any leads which may be developed in the future. Agent Mulroy will advise us as to the results of his interview with the Ensign.

With reference to Mr. Middleton in Rochester, Agent Mulroy stated he called him by phone from Mr. Beebe's office. Beebe is the individual who referred Middleton's letter reporting the rumor to the White House. At the time of the conversation Middleton indicated that he had no additional information about the rumor but that he did have information on other matters. He requested that Agent Mulroy have the local Agent in Rochester contact him. Agent Mulroy agreed to do this and I suggested to Agent Mulroy that he write a letter to the Buffalo Office in this regard. Agent Mulroy is of the opinion that the information will be of a political nature.



Respectfully,

Peter J. Wacks

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848 OCT 28 1964

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MEMORANDUM

September 30, 1942

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Kramer.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

TO: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
FROM: Oscar Cox
SUBJECT: Harry Hopkins-Freuhauf Yacht Story

Enclosed are copies of recent correspondence in connection with the Harry Hopkins-Freuhauf yacht story that I mentioned to you yesterday.

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DATE 4-18-00 BY [redacted]
914008

Oscar Cox

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b7C

What is status of
this investigation?
H.

Enclosures

Rec 10-2-42
Means to Director
in this matter
~ 10-2-42 by JCM
J



RECORDED

INDEXED

62-59396-18
F B I
19 OCT 28 1942
JCM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES SENATE

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PERSONAL

Honorable Frank Knox
The Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

Dear Frank:

I am quoting below from a letter which I have received from a writer and I am wondering if it is true or false. If it is false it would be well to spike it right now.

"Mr. Freuhauf of the Freuhauf Trailer Corporation was on a cruise on his yacht. He had been notified by the Coast Guard that his yacht was to be turned over to them in ten days or two weeks. The papers to this effect had all been signed. Mr. Freuhauf put into New London and was there informed by the Coast Guard that his yacht was to be turned over to them the next morning. He was, of course, sure that some mistake had been made. Knowing Secretary Knox, he called him on the telephone and was told in a short time that the New London Coast Guard was correct and that the taking over would be done the following morning. The change in plans came about because Harry Hopkins wanted the yacht for his honeymoon.

"Now if this story is incorrect it should be stopped, but if it is true it should be spread to the high heavens. Maybe Mr. Freuhauf wanted his yacht used by Hopkins - However, it must be possible for you to find out the true facts."

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours

/s/ M. E. Tydings

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DATE 4-18-00 BY
#914008

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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON

12 September, 1942

MEMORANDUM for Honorable Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy.

With reference to the accompanying letter to you from Senator Tydings, there is no truth to the report made to him concerning the acquisition of the yacht owned by Mr. Roy Freuhauf of Detroit.

It is assumed the yacht in question is the MY-KAY IV (55 feet in length). This yacht, located at Detroit, was originally offered for sale to the Coast Guard by Mr. Freuhauf in May, 1942. On June 29, 1942, a request was sent to the War Shipping Administration to requisition and purchase the vessel. On July 24th the MY-KAY IV was turned over to the Coast Guard by the War Shipping Administration representative at Detroit. She sailed from Detroit on August 19th; arrived at New York on August 26th; and at Charleston, S. C., on September 7, 1942,

In the report to Senator Tydings, it is alleged that the yacht was taken over by the Coast Guard in New London, whereas in fact it was taken over at Detroit. Also, it will be observed that the yacht was taken over by the Coast Guard prior to the marriage of Mr. Hopkins.

/s/ R. R. Waesche

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-00 BY [redacted]
#914008

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ENCLOSURE

September 16, 1942

(SC)CS1/L4
(044500A)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

My dear Millard:

For your ~~confidential~~ information, I am enclosing herewith a memorandum from Admiral Waesche concerning that yacht which was purchased from Mr. Freuhauf. This incident perfectly illustrates the sort of criminal activity of a domestic fifth column group. The quotation from your correspondent is full of completely unfounded statements. I think we ought to make some effort to learn just who told this man these lies.

The animus lying behind this is made perfectly evident by the insinuation that the change was made in order to personally benefit Harry Hopkins. So far as I know, Harry Hopkins did not have any honeymoon. Certainly he did not spend it on any Navy ship. I, personally, do not know Mr. Freuhauf and never have met him and he never called me on the 'phone.

It would be a real favor to me if you could let me get at the source of this sort of lying inasmuch as it has a very palpable purpose of injuring the Navy and criticizing my administration of Navy affairs.

Yours sincerely

/s/ Frank Knox

Honorable Millard Tydings
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-16-00 BY [redacted]
#914008

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EXCISE

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THE RECORDER'S COURT
of the City of Detroit
Violations Bureau

Traffic and Ordinance Division
Water Board Building
735 Randolph Street
Detroit, Michigan

September 18, 1942

Honorable Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

My dear Frank:

Personal

There is an ugly and nasty rumor being passed around in Detroit, which comes to me almost directly from Mr. Freuhauf of the Freuhauf Trailer, to this effect:

FIRST: That the government paid Mrs. Dillon \$600,000.00 for her antiquated yacht and after taking possession of it, the government spent \$400,000.00 replacing the old and worn out engines and that the yacht is now moored somewhere in Chesapeake Bay, or the Potomac River, and used only as an Admiral's office.

SECOND: Freuhauf claims that the government commandeered his own yacht when he was on a trip at the Soo. That the yacht was used originally to take Harry Hopkins and his bride on their honeymoon and has since then been moored somewhere near Washington and is used for private parties only. Freuhauf claims he has never been compensated a cent for his yacht, which cost originally \$22,000.00. Naturally, this whole thing looks like a lot of nasty gossip to me and I submit it to you for what it is worth.

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours sincerely

/s/ C. A. P.

Director

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-00 BY [redacted]
#914008

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ENCLOSURE

G
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September 22, 1942

Dear Puss;

The ugly rumor concerning which you write me is completely without the slightest foundation. It had reached me in another letter heretofore and at that time I requested Admiral Waesche, Commandant of the Coast Guard, to report to me the exact status of the Freuhauf yacht. For your information I quote as follows from his report:

"It is assumed the yacht in question is the MY-KAY IV (55 feet in length). This yacht, located at Detroit, was originally offered for sale to the Coast Guard by Mr. Freuhauf in May, 1942. On June 29, 1942, a request was sent to the War Shipping Administration to requisition and purchase the vessel. On July 24th the MY-KAY IV was turned over to the Coast Guard by the War Shipping Administration representative at Detroit. She sailed from Detroit on August 19th; arrived at New York on August 26th; and at Charleston, S. C., on September 7, 1942."

With respect to the Dillon yacht, it was purchased at a very much smaller sum than the one you mentioned, only a fraction of it, and a still smaller fraction was spent by the government in conditioning it and fitting it out with the proper equipment. It is now used by the Commander in Chief as the flagship of the U.S. Fleet, which is a pretty honorable position for any yacht to occupy. It is used by the Admiral whenever he has need of a flagship.

I was glad to hear from you and thank you for bringing this sort of malicious gossip to my attention. It is only a part of a pretty widespread campaign of sabotage which is being carried on by a lot of people who hate Roosevelt so much that they forget to love their country and help to protect it.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4-18-00 BY [redacted]
914808

Sincerely yours

/s/ Frank Knox

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Mr. Calvin A. Palmer
Water Board Building
735 Randolph Street
Detroit, Michigan

ENCLOSURE

ALLEN GROVER
9 Rockefeller Plaza
New York

September 21, 1942

Dear Adlai:

Over the week end I twice heard a story told as gospel truth which made me sore. Although the subject matter was trivial, there were overtones to it I think are important, or I wouldn't be bothering you.

It went as follows: Seems that Mr. and Mrs. Freuhauf (trailers) have a handsome yacht. Mr. Freuhauf had offered it to the Navy which told him they would take it as of September 1st. So Mr. Freuhauf, wife and friends were using the yacht until that time, and on August 15th put into Newport. Promptly alongside came a Coast Guard cutter whose Commander boarded the yacht and told Mr. Freuhauf that he had orders to take the yacht over at once. Mr. Freuhauf, wife and guests were considerably inconvenienced by this sudden demand, but the Coast Guard Commander was sure and asked Mr. Freuhauf to call the Navy in Washington. This he did and was told that the yacht was urgently needed. So, the owners piled off and that was that.

However, a few days later the Captain turned up in Mr. Freuhauf's office, and in reply to his question, what was the Navy doing with the boat, the Captain sputtered that the whole thing was a hell of a note; the boat had not been used by the Navy, but he had been ordered to take Harry Hopkins and bride on a wedding trip.

This is pure poison, of course, for the President and Mr. Knox. I have no interest in the matter other than this angle because I don't know Harry Hopkins and his present wife is only a casual acquaintance.

Could you get me the facts? If they stand up, I will see that the two people who repeated the story get their ears pinned back in open meeting, the way they told it.

Sincerely yours

/s/ Allen Grover

Mr. Adlai Stevenson
Special Assistant to the Secretary
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

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DATE 7-18-10 BY [redacted]
#914008
[redacted]

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C
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September 23, 1942

Dear Allen:

The nasty story about the Freuhauf yacht has arisen twice before, and on September 12 Admiral Faesche, Commandant of the Coast Guard, made a report to the Secretary. For your information I quote from the report as follows:

"It is assumed the yacht in question is the MY-KAY IV (55 feet in length). This yacht, located at Detroit, was originally offered for sale to the Coast Guard by Mr. Freuhauf in May 1942. On June 29, 1942, a request was sent to the War Shipping Administration to requisition and purchase the vessel. On July 24th the MY-KAY IV was turned over to the Coast Guard by the War Shipping Administration representative at Detroit. She sailed from Detroit on August 19th; arrived at New York on August 26th; and at Charleston, S. C., on September 7, 1942."

Note that the boat was turned over to the Coast Guard not at Newport, nor at New London, as one of the previous complainants alleged, but at Detroit. Moreover, the Secretary does not know Mr. Freuhauf, has never met him and he never called him on the telephone. If Harry Hopkins had a honeymoon he did not spend it on any Navy ship.

I suspect this is another one of those malicious stories which people are only too glad to repeat in order to injure Colonel Knox, the Navy or the Administration and I hope you will see to it that those particular "germ carriers" are disinfected! Many thanks for bringing it to my attention and giving me this opportunity to write you.

Sincerely yours

/s/ Adlai E. Stevenson
Special Assistant to
The Secretary of the Navy

Mr. Allen Grover
9 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N.Y.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-88 BY
#914008

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NEW YORK
JOURNAL AMERICAN
210 South Street, New York, N.Y.

Sept. 25, 1942

O C
P O
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Y

Col. Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

Dear Col. Knox:-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-00 BY [redacted]
914608

b6
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There is a story making the rounds of the country, which I am sure you will agree with me should be run to ground.

This is the story concerning Harry Hopkins and his honeymoon.

That a boat belonging to one of the Freuhaufs was taken over for the Coast Guard and before being put into government service was used for a honeymoon trip by Mr. Hopkins and his bride.

One version is that the boat was requisitioned several days before a previously agreed date at some port or place on the Long Island Sound. That Mr. Freuhauf and his family were forced to end a faro-well cruise on the boat, pack their bags and take a train home. That right after that, Mr. Hopkins and his bride came aboard and took a short cruise.

The other version is that the boat was taken over at Detroit and Mr. Hopkins and his bride boarded it and had their honeymoon on the trip to the Sound.

The story has been widely circulated, some of it by people not usually given to gossip. People who claim either to know the Freuhaufs or to be friends of friends of their's.

I have made some limited investigations, but have never been able to get enough information either to run the story or to prove it false.

If the story is not true, I am sure you will agree with me that it is bad for the country for a lot of its leading citizens to be spreading such a story, particularly in times like these.

Also, that you will agree with me, being a newspaper man yourself, that the quickest way to stop a false rumor is the truth.

So, can you get the answers for me to these questions:

Was the time for requisitioning the Freuhauf boat advanced from an initially set date?

Where was possession of the boat obtained?

5-18-11

Did Mr. Hopkins take a honeymoon trip on this boat, or
on any other boat requisitioned by the Government?

If this story has no basis in fact, whatever, I would like to know how
things like this get around. Who starts them?

With best wishes to you, I am

Sincerely yours

/s/ Leslie Gould

Financial Editor.

C
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September 28, 1942

Dear Mr. Gould:

On behalf of Colonel Knox, who is out of the city, I am acknowledging your letter of September 25 which repeats again the familiar story about Harry Hopkins, his honeymoon and the Fruehauf yacht.

Perhaps a simple way to answer your questions is to enclose a copy of a letter in response to a similar inquiry which I wrote last week. I am deleting the name of the addressee.

You will note that the story has no basis in fact and I only wish I knew who started it. Incidentally, it was published in Drew Pearson's column together with the answers on September 17.

I appreciate your bringing this to the Secretary's attention and I will see to it that he finds your letter upon his return. I can add, in addition to the enclosed letter, that Mr. Hopkins spent his honeymoon ashore and not on any ship, let alone a Navy ship.

Sincerely yours

Adlai E. Stevenson
Special Assistant to
The Secretary of the Navy

Mr. Leslie Gould
New York Journal American
210 South Street
New York, N. Y.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4-18-00 BY [redacted]
91408

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Enclosure

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DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

62-59396-4
Not Recorded

HOME

It takes a heap o' livin' in a bouse to make it home.
A heap o' sun an' shadder, an' ye sometimes have
t' roam

Afore ye really 'preciate the things ye 'lef' behind.
An' hunger fer 'em somehow, with 'em allus on
yer mind.

It don't make any difference how rich ye get t' be,
How much yer chairs an' tables cost, how great
yer luxury;

It ain't home t' ye, though it be the palace of a king.
Until somehow yer soul is sort o' wrapped round
everything.

—EDGAR A. GUEST.



AT HOME—Upper left, we see the honest husbandman leaving the front door of his simple cottage for a day's work. Right, Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins any day at home.

AND how many of these millions of Federal employees are necessary to the war effort? That is the subject of what they call "a good deal of talk" right now.

Senator Millard Tydings, of Maryland, is chairman of one committee which has been in special contact with Sen. Byrd, Lewis, Hershey, director of Selective Service, concerning relief of young men in Federal service from fighting the war with guns.

It is possible, so some people argue, that we don't need our educational system in this period of extreme emergency. We can do without some of the average young technicians of the Federal departments, busy with bird life, languages, the doings of the protozoa, their preoccupations of scientific, a-rung and scabbiest beginners.

After all, there is no language a young man knows that some old man or a girl does not know, too. Nor is there any slide rule expertizing around Washington by junior chemists and engineers that couldn't be done by somebody unable to pack a howitzer.

Senator Tydings believes that it was his committee's work which led the President the other day to forbid occupational deferments in the Government services hereafter. But he is a little puzzled to know how to interpret that order in view of the fact that it was promptly followed by a request from Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of the Navy Knox that nobody in Federal service doing essential work lay down his tools for a gun. The whole thing may come under the heading of "Says which?" and call for further explanation.

Among other investigators of the manpower situation in the Federal service are the above-mentioned Senator Byrd and committees directing their efforts toward reduction of all nonessential Federal services; the Truman Committee of the Senate which deals with mismanagement of the war effort in general; the House Civil Service Committee, and the Senate Com-

mittees on Military Affairs and on Education and Labor.

Each is seizing the elephant by a different part of the anatomy, but all agree that it sure is SOME elephant.

HARRY HOPKINS, in his magazine article mobilizing the American family, declared all kinds of private industry and private life not regarded by the Administration as essential in the war effort must go.

For two years now, private industry has been surrendering its manpower to the war effort. What private industry is running on luxury lines? Has one escaped, or even tried to escape, sacrifice to the war of trained personnel?

This writer knows details about only newspaper publishing. And in that industry the only indispensable man yet identified was one Hahoh laterwell without whom, so his publisher said, one of the Administration's most admired journalistic water-carriers would have to lay down its load. P.S.

The draft got him anyhow. In every other newspaper that comes to mind the help has doubled up. Old-timers have come back from retirement, girls have tried new and strange assignments, and every day has seen a new tightening of the ranks, a new squeezing down of operations, another willing sacrifice to victory.

BUT what do they say about Harry? What is his sacrifice? Mrs. Roosevelt says he and his bride are staying on at the White House in the spirit of sacrifice. That is a sacrifice not only on the Hopkins' side. Consider the President.

It is true Mr. Roosevelt has not just the White House in which to lay his head, but also Hyde Park, his place at Warm Springs, Ga., the family's new apartment on Washington Square in New York, and a fifth residence which the necessities of war forbid one to discuss.

Some call it just a summer cottage, but others "a palatial mansion." It all depends on the point of view.

But even so, it must be sometimes just a little strained around the White House, with the Roosevelts' plans handed one way and the Hopkins' another. Consider Hopkins. That noble figure of sacrifice lives thus:

First, he gets a salary of not less than \$10,000 a year from the taxpayers of the United States because he is a special assistant to the President, according to the office of White House Secretary Stephen Early. Then the taxpayers carry him all around the world in a bomber, also at their expense, because he has much to do as chairman of the Munitions Assignment Board. In Washington, as a WPB member, he has transportation at his finger's wiggle, day or night.

As a magazine writer, he can pick off \$5,000 for an article along the lines of the one so often quoted here, at least three times a year.

And as a husband, we all grant that he is a very lucky man indeed.

His bride, as you know, was Mrs. Louise Macy, and a more charming, more talented person you never saw. She was Paris editor of Harper's Bazaar until the fall of France, and after that ran a smart little shop of her own in New York. In January of this year she came down to Washington job-hunting with a letter of introduction to Harry Hopkins.

July found her his White House bride, with a side job as a nurse's aide over at Columbia Hospital.

AND though household servants may become a luxury to most of us, there will still be one or two around at the White House to look after Harry and Louise.

And though other \$10,000-a-year men may have to let slip their insurance, that can't ever bother Harry as long as the magazines stay in business.

Sacrificing home life to this war is hard on Harry and Louise, just like other folks, but don't worry. They are good sports, both of them, and they'll bear up even if they can't grin.

When Is Harry Hopkins Coming To Mobilize HIS Family?

By FRANK C. WALDROP



LADY who has frequently been invited to out her Dupont Circle home into apartments for war-workers fell to wondering the other day whether she couldn't get Harry Hopkins and his bride as customers. Of course the most she could offer them would be two rooms, kitchenette and bath on the fourth floor front. Heat, such as it is, furnished. All for a price they could well afford.

There wouldn't be any elevator or special service. Harry would have to run downstairs for the milk every morning while his clever, sophisticated young wife scrambled two and made up the bed.

That would be a little different from the present situation in which the Hopkinses are camping out at the White House, but after all, Harry and his bride really don't like hanging on around Mr. Roosevelt's quarters.

One may recall Mrs. Roosevelt remarked in her column not long ago that Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins are staying on at the White House in the spirit of sacrifice so the work of the war can be expedited. This is a sacrifice of a sort different from that Harry described for the rest of America in a recent magazine article entitled "You and Your Family Will Be Mobilized."

IN that survey of our future, this Mr. Hopkins, who sacrifices himself by living at the White House, stated:

"We should not be permitted to ride on a train, make a long-distance telephone call, or send a telegram without evidence that these are necessary. Doctors and dentists will have to go to communities where they are most needed."

"Every college and university should be turned completely into an Army and Navy training center. For instance, every boy of 18 or over in Harvard, or the University of Chicago, or Stanford should be in the armed services. The Army or Navy should decide whether he should stay in college to be trained for war."

inducted into the fighting forces at once.

"The women, too, should remain in college only while they are being trained for their part in the war effort."

"High-school courses should be shortened so students will have more time to work, especially on farms. Some students should quit high school entirely. I see no reason for wasting time on what today are nonessentials, such as Chaucer and Latin. A diploma can only be framed and hung on the wall. A shell that a boy or girl helps to make can kill a lot of Japs. If we don't win this war, there won't be any high schools to go to."

Now that is logic you can't escape. It took a smart man to figure out that one. If we lose the war, we lose everything. Hopkins says prepare to shattering the school system to win the war.

BUT that isn't all. Mobilizing the family means registering the women for a labor draft, and shattering also the remaining fragments of civilian enterprise. Says Hopkins:

"In wholesale and retail trade, employment will drop by about one half. Lack of goods to sell will force most of the cuts. A domestic servant will be a rare luxury."

"There are 9,776,000 wage earners in industries whose products are used for direct civilian supply, such as food, textiles, hardware, farmers, and shoes. It is estimated that 7,166,000 of these have been, or can be, moved into war work. That gives a realistic picture of how little will be produced for civilians, how much for our fighting forces."

But it isn't all doleful. In places, this survey of family mobilization just sparkles with wit and homely humor, as when he remarks:

"There will be plenty of headaches, but plenty of aspirin."

And again, after a detailed breakdown of the plan to shift people from one industry to another, he observes:

"There will be no change in employment in racket-making."

That last should establish Harry Hopkins for all time as a humorist.

NOW you may wonder whether Harry knows what he's talking about, but if so, you may as well ease

off right now. He knows, all right. He holds four important jobs.

As special assistant to the President, Harry does those mysterious errands which have for years given him the reputation of being the man Mr. Roosevelt trusts most.

As a member of the War Production Board, he sits in on the analysis of war effort and votes changes of policy.

As chairman of the Munitions Assignment Board, he bosses the distribution of war goods around the country, seeing to it that Russia, England, China, and the United States are getting fighting equipment as fast as it can be made, and no faster than the President has decided they shall.

And as a trustee of Mr. Roosevelt's library, he keeps an eye on the collection of records concerning the remarkable times we live in, to see that they are handled properly for posterity.

Hardships, says this extremely well-informed man, are ahead for America. The citizen today earns \$17,000 a year. A year may have to take a \$3,000 a year, says Hopkins, and that "every community has wages of women whose work is in no way necessary to the war."

And there he rings the bell—loud and clear. Such a community is Washington, D. C.

ON November 11, 1918, we are told by Senator Harry Flood Byrd, of Virginia, there were 917,760 civilian employees in the Federal Government, or one civilian for every four and a half men in the armed forces.

The latest estimate of Federal Civilian employees, dated August 31, 1942, was fixed at 2,606,300, more than the number of soldiers we sent abroad in the last war. Civilians are still being added to the Federal pay roll at the rate of 3,000 a day, says Senator Byrd, and are now at a ratio of one civilian per one and three-fourths fighting men.

On November 11, 1918, there were 30 agencies of the Federal Government. Today there are 81. If the Government keeps on hiring civilians at the present rate, it will soon have 3,000,000 on its pay roll. In the last World War we got only 4,800,000 men into the total of the armed services—Army, Navy, and Marine Corps.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

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DATE 10/1/85 BY [redacted]

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b7C

File 62-59396-19

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Signed statement to be made as
basis of file.

Do not mark.

J. C. Mulberry

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DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

Noroton, Conn. b6
Sept. 26, 1942. b7C

I, Leon D. W. Wilson, make the following voluntary statement to Joseph C. Mulroy, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I am an Ensign in the United States Coast Guard and am presently attending a naval communications school at Noroton, Connecticut.

Prior to my coming to this school I was assigned to the Detroit base of the Coast Guard from July 21 to August 29, 1942. My duties at the Detroit base consisted of surveying private boats and appraising and inventorying them in connection with their acquisition by the Coast Guard for use in the war effort.

I recall that I made the survey of the M. J. May 1V i.e. the final survey after the boat was turned over to the Coast Guard on July 24, 1942. I recall further that I met Captain Bob Heileman for the first time on this date. I saw him again on the following day while we were testing the boat and again on Saturday August 1, 1942 at Hean's Detroit Yacht Harbor where I frequently went to with regard to boats based there which the Coast Guard was contemplating acquiring for official use.

I further recall that the M. J. May 1V was a particularly attractive boat and that when she was taken over every one at the base was wondering what use would be made of her. About a week after the boat had been acquired by the Coast Guard and was docked at the Detroit base I heard a rumor that Harry Hopkins

Leon D. W. Wilson
Ensign USCGA.

was going to use the boat on his honeymoon. This rumor was all over the Detroit base and I cannot recall at this particular time who told it to me. It was generally known that a chief petty officer was at the base and had been sent there for the specific purpose of taking the M.Y. Kay IV on a secret mission. The nature of this mission was unknown to me but I am sure that in some way this mission formed the basis for the story which was being circulated that Mr. Hopkins was to use the boat.

Around this time I distinctly recall talking to Captain Bob Heileman at Kean's Detroit yacht harbor about the condition of the M.Y. Kay IV particularly regarding certain defective wiring which Captain Heileman felt should have been repaired ~~before~~ before the boat was turned in. I desire to state definitely that I did not discuss the use of the boat which was contemplated by the Coast Guard and did not tell him that it was to be used by Mr. Hopkins on his honeymoon. I have a vague recollection of Captain Heileman mentioning this story to me and it is quite possible that he had heard the story from some other Coast Guard man since this story was at the time widely circulated around the base and was the subject of much gossip.

I have read the above statement consisting of two pages and declare it to be true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Witness: Joseph C. Mulroy
Special Agent, F.B.I.
Washington D.C.

Signed Lem D.W. Wilson
Ensign USCGR

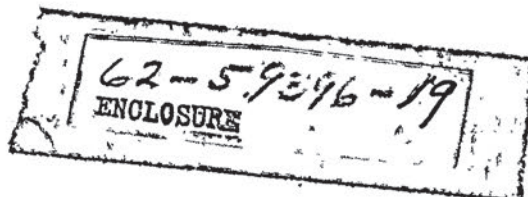
90 90

This is the story that is being told:

"A gentleman, owning a yacht with a crew of eight men, being patriotic and eager to help the Government in its present need, offered his yacht and his crew of eight men to the President for the duration. He made one stipulation - that inasmuch as he had had no vacation and had worked very hard in war duties, he asked if he might have on the yacht before turning it over a two weeks holiday at his own expense. The yacht and the crew was accepted with the agreement that he should have it for two weeks, the papers were signed, and the deal was closed. The gentleman then started on his trip and was gone for 24 hours when he received a radiogram saying that the boat was needed at once for an important mission and would he return immediately. He did and turned his boat and crew over to the Government. Later, he met the Captain who said to him, "Well, that was some trip we had." The gentleman said, "What was the trip." The Captain replied, "We took Harry Hopkins and his bride for their honeymoon." The owner of the yacht did not think that it could be true, so he tracked it down and got affidavits from every one to prove that it was true."

The story winds up - "and now you see what kind of a Government you have."

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September 16, 1942

Dear Bill:

I wish you would show Molly
the attached copy of a letter I wrote
to Ray Beebe. It has to do with the same
story that you reported to me by telephone
this morning.

Kindest regards.

Very sincerely yours,

STEPHEN EARLY

Honorable William Stanley,
Normandy Building,
1626 K Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

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Enclosure (copy of let. dated 9-16-42 to Raymond N. Beebe)

STE:mb

Goodwin, Nixon, Hargrave, Middleton & Devans
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
31 Exchange Street
Rochester, N.Y.

FRED C. GOODWIN
T. CARL NIXON
THOMAS J. HARGRAVE
E. WILLOUGHBY MIDDLETON
FRANK E. DEVANS
W. CLYDE O'BRIEN
EDWARD I. CRISTY
CASPER BALTEUSPERGER
ALFRED W. DUNBAR
JUSTIN J. DOYLE

FRANK J. GOODWIN
SCOTT STEWART, JR.
CARL F. PAUL, JR.
ARTHUR L. STERN
DANIEL G. KENNEDY
GEORGE C. GORDON, III
GEORGE H. HAWKS, JR.
WILLIAM H. MORRIS
JOSEPH WM. TAYLOR

September 9, 1942

Raymond N. Beebe, Esq.
815 Fifteenth Street
Washington, D. C.

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DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

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b7c

Dear Mr. Beebe:

I am enclosing herewith a statement of a story which is making the rounds of Rochester, and which obviously has the effect of undermining confidence in the Government - a most unfortunate thing at this critical time, and knowing your close friendship with the President's Secretary, Mr. Early, I am wondering if you cannot find out from him definitely whether the story has any foundation in fact. I am anxious to know the truth, whatever it may be, and would like, if possible, to have a statement over the signature of Mr. Early.

I would appreciate tremendously your getting what information you can and letting me have it. If some way could be found in which to scotch stories of this kind without foundation, it should be used.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

E. W. Whiddell

EWM:DMB

62-59396-19

September 16, 1942

Dear Ray:

It was good of you to give me the note you received from E. Willoughby Middleton and to let me know about "the story that is being told".

While it has not been published, the fact is that Harry Hopkins and his bride spent their honeymoon on a farm in Connecticut — that they did not use a yacht during their honeymoon — that they have not used one since.

The story in circulation is therefore false in its entirety. It is more than false. It is treacherous. Its circulation tends to destroy confidence in Government, to breed distrust of the Government by the people — all at a time when we have a war to fight and win.

It is not too much to say that the telling of such a story actually gives aid and comfort to the enemy.

Eight saboteurs recently were arrested and convicted. Six of them were electrocuted — one was confined to hard labor for life and one was confined to hard labor for thirty years.

These Hitler agents planned destruction. Fortunately they were apprehended before they could carry out their plans. They were German agents — not American patriots.

I think it might be said in their favor that they did less to destroy us than the man who originated "the story that is being told" or, those who are guilty of repeating and passing on that story to others.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

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DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

Mr. Raymond M. Beebe,
815 Fifteenth Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

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62-51296-19
STE:mb

COPY

J.N. SAUVER
91 Selden Avenue
Detroit, Mich.

August 14, 1942

Hon. Prentiss M. Brown
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Brown:

Five men, all whose employment is contributing to war production, paused today at noon to discuss the discouraging newspaper headlines and expressed their sorrowful opinions of the task ahead. One man interrupted and related the following to us, emphasizing his distrust of administration sincerity and his discouragement.

This is the story. A man by the name of Fruehauf - that name is well-known in truck-trailer manufacturing circles - offered his yacht docked in Detroit to the Government. It was commandeered but conversion for Naval use delayed. On inquiry, it was disclosed that conversion was delayed so that Harry Hopkins could and is reported to be now cruising the Great Lakes with his bride. Presumably, this yacht is being operated at the expense of taxpayers.

That, in my opinion, is another example of "acts" which are damaging morale and its companion, hopeless discouragement.

Of course, Mr. Hopkins' "Honeymoon" is no business of mine but delaying conversion of a requisitioned yacht for his convenience and probable operation at the expense of taxpayers is my business.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. N. FAUVER

J. N. Fauver

JNF:OK

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COPY
Prentiss M. Brown, Mich., Chairman

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on Claims

September 12, 1942

Colonel Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Knox:

I enclose a letter which I have received from Mr. J. N. Fauver, 91 Selden Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, who relates a story he heard that a yacht offered to the government by Mr. Fruehauf of Detroit was used by Mr. Harry Hopkins for his honeymoon.

With the return of the letter I would be glad to have your comments and advice.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Prentiss M. Brown

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OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

MY KAY IV

Owner: Roy Fruehauf
Detroit

Orig Cost: \$32,800
"offered" for: \$40,000
Preliminary appraised value: \$25,000

Acquired July 24, 1942, for the Coast Guard for harbor patrol
service at Cleveland.

Departed Detroit Aug. 19 for Charleston, S. C., arriving
Sept. 7. Service, after conversion, off-shore patrol in
6th N. D.

Resp.

/s/ L. J. HUDSON

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62-59376-19

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 28, 1942 3

JCM:md

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: RUMOR RE HARRY L. HOPKINS' USE OF
GOVERNMENT REQUISITIONED BOAT

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

There is attached hereto correspondence sent over by the White House relating to the above captioned investigation.

For your information, the authors of the attached correspondence were contacted and the results of their interviews incorporated in a memorandum submitted in this case.

Respectfully,

J. C. Strickland

Attachment

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ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

FOR DEFENSE



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8 OCT 29 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

CC-287

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E.A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffee _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

KRM:alo'd

Date: October 22, 1942

JRM
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MUMFORD

g
x
RE: HARRY HOPKINS

Attached hereto is photostatic material concern-
ing the captioned matter obtained by the Washington Field
Office from the files of Walter Steele of the National
Republic Magazine. This material was made available gratu-
itously by Mr. Steele and was forwarded to the Bureau by
letter from the Washington Field Office dated August 27,
1942.

Respectfully,

K.R. McIntire
K. R. McIntire

File

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DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

Enclosures

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is a social necessity and must be transmitted into a permanent Federal policy.

The first of these two points presents a very pessimistic outlook for one in such a position, especially so when the administration, which he represents in the matter of dispensing federal aid to the needy, has proclaimed far and wide the goal it is working toward in the "more abundant life." The second point shows the utter lack of common sense, so prevalent among New Dealers, in the idea offered to cure unemployment. Is he purposely erasing the true issue?

It was while on this trip to Europe that the Longshoremen's Strike tied up San Francisco, and at the same time there were strike developments in 10 major sections or cities of the country. Mr. Hopkins being in Europe of course could not be reached conveniently for orders in regard to relief for the needy strikers, so the order he issued before his departure was used to guide the policy of the FERA. We quote the order:

"The Federal Emergency Relief Administration is concerned with administering relief to the needy unemployed and their families. Each case applying for relief to the local emergency relief agencies should be treated on its merits as a relief case, wholly apart from any controversy in which the wage earner may be involved.

"The Federal Emergency Relief Administrator will not attempt to judge the merits of labor disputes, State and Federal agencies as well as courts exist which are duly qualified to act as arbiters and adjusters in such disputes.

"Unless it be determined by the Department of Labor that the basis for the strike is untenable and unjustified, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration will furnish local relief agencies to furnish relief to the families of striking wage earners after careful investigation has shown that their resources are not sufficient to meet emergency needs."

The close cooperation between the various departments of government is of course necessary and desirable to the orderly progress, therefore the Department of Labor's stand in regard to the unreasonable and unjustified status of any strike is indeed enlightening. The Department declared that it was highly unlikely that such a ruling would be made in view of the administration's specific declarations that labor's right to strike must not be infringed. The Department of Labor by indication and

possibly by intent, seemingly unable to arbitrate strike conditions, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration's edict to feed and care for the strikers and their families in the event they need assistance, certainly bring into reality the picture painted by Professor Tugwell, when he said, "We must nourish the scurves of that anger and surge forward with the worker and the farmer."

In June, 1934, the press carried announcements to the effect that FERA had contracted to handle 70,000 head of cattle a week to be canned and used by the relief clients. Hopkins also announced that the FERA could purchase at least 250,000 bales of cotton to be made into quilts and mattresses for the needy. These articles were to be made in relief workshops. But such mattress manufacturers made such a protest that the project had to be abandoned.

Hopkins said of the American Liberty League according to an A.P. dispatch August 24, 1934:

"They are so far over to the right that no one will ever find them."

Such being his expressed thought, may we ask, does this mean that the administration, of which Hopkins is a part, is, according to this statement, on the left?

On his return from Europe he made several startling statements upon being interviewed by the press. On August 24, 1934, he told the group of awestruck reporters:

"Surely we are in the midst of a new era, and it is going over the Tories can't stop it."

In this same interview, he said of England:

"The Labor party is pulling the conservatives to the left and they are both pulling the Tories to the left."

He elaborated on this statement, explaining that they are doing things over there that would be regarded as more radical than anything ever suggested in this country. In this connection Mr. Hopkins was reminded that, England, somehow, had managed to balance the budget, while the New Deal was heading in the opposite direction at the rate of about 7 billions a year. He pooh-poohed the reporters' credulity, by saying:

"Don't be taken in by that balanced budget talk, that's for international communism."

He finally got down to details about ideas gathered on his trip in regard to social security plans. His program seemed to be set in the formative state; he advocated public works on a larger and grander scale, with unem-

ployment insurance based on "an American system" that would not go bankrupt as the European reserves did. He said:

"On an actuarial basis I doubt if there could be unemployment insurance funds that would go bankrupt in a situation such as we have had with 14 million out of work. But then the government would have to step in as England did. Missions wiped out the unemployment fund with a stroke of the pen, without any regard for the payments that had been made, but no other country would think of abolishing it."

In spite of his realization of the fact that unemployment insurance, from the practical standpoint, is worthless when put into operation and operated by government, he advocates its institution in this country. Why? Because if such a measure could be set up and be operated by the government in this country it would make a splendid basis for the further reorganization of working men and women. It would of necessity make them look to the Federal Government for support in times of need.

The Federal Theatre Project, under the supervision of the FERA is under the brilliant leadership of Hallie Flanagan, member of the editorial board of the Communist "New Theatre League," which is the American section of the International Union of the Revolutionary Theatre. It is the head of this division of the FERA. Among the contributing editors of this same magazine there are five who are also connected with the Theatrical Division of FERA (now under the control of WPA). They are: William Ver-

get, John E. Bohn, "German Group"; Alfred Brynmor, "Pestic Theatre"; group; Meyer Levin, Chicago branch of the Federal Theatre group. Various sections of the country have had personal contact with the type of drama the Federal Theatre has been producing, and in some parts there have been tragic results.

Hallie Flanagan wrote a play called "Can You Hear Their Voices?" which Ben Blau, representative of the Moscow Board of the Communist American Theatre movement, in his book "Attacking the American Theatre" cited.

As a tale "of the impoverished and drought-stricken farmers, hampered by mislaid action to social security plans. His program seemed to be set in the formative state; he advocated public works on a larger and grander scale, with unem-

school to learn the basic causes of their misery and how to overcome them." He calls it "a shot heard round the world."

There was a theatrical performance given in Moscow in honor of Hallie Flanagan and the work she has done for the revolutionary theatre. Hallie Flanagan is also on the board of the State University of Moscow summer school for training of American students in Communism during the vacation months. She was given an initial fund of 27 million dollars of taxpayers' money for the Federal Theatre Projects under Mr. Hopkins.

In 1934 Owen Wooding, who had been an organizer of a State Cooperative venture in North Carolina, was imported to organize the unemployed of Washington, D. C. into a self-sustaining cooperative community. Application was made to the FERA for an initial grant of \$30,000, elaborate plans for its expenditure were drawn, but when the show-down came they were instructed to begin on a personal basis. This resulted in a personal call on July 24th for \$5,700 which was to launch one of the cooperative in the dairy and meat business. This application was changing according to the Washington Herald of August 26, 1934, because:

"The cooperative's by-laws call for silent membership at the outset of its meetings."

Though as individuals we condemn the cooperative idea, such a reason for refusing the application of this group cannot be tolerated in officials of this God-fearing and still free land. Hopkins said in 1934 that he hoped Upton Sinclair would win in the California election as he was "on our side." When asked if he meant Democratic side, he said, "I mean our side. I like to see everybody on our side. . . . He's a good Democrat now." It will be recalled that Sinclair favored a dictatorship, saying in an address, "the whole collapsing system of capitalism must be replaced."

Dr. Lewis A. Hopkins, a brother of Harry Hopkins ran for the office of Governor on the Republican ticket in Tacoma, Washington, in 1934. Hopkins said in a press conference:

"Well, I thought that party died two years ago and didn't need a coroner."

Hopkins was appointed administrator of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in April, 1935. The growing number of teachers on the relief rolls led to the establishment of Workers' Schools—the teachers to be taken off direct relief and be paid to teach others on relief. Hilda W. Smith, a member of the board of the

notorious Communist Commonwealth College of New, Arkansas, which received funds from the Federal Government Relief Fund, as well as the communist Guilford Free Live Fund (American Fund for Public Service). According to the Washington Merry-Go-Round column of October 3, 1935, she is sometimes called Harry Hopkins' professor of Communism. In this same article she said that they did not teach Communism, but allowed its discussion provided the other side was represented as well.

The "New York American" of August 8, 1934, reveals that "Communist literature and radical instruction are available to students of the New York Summer School for Workers, 302 35th St., an institution maintained by U. S. Government funds. The FERA is paying salaries to 15 teachers, and the 75 students receive lunches and \$5 a week from the C.W.A. . . . Students asserted that teaching of Marxism and Socialism were part of their curriculum and that they derived the subjects as part of their school work. Hilda Smith, principal, denied vehemently that Communism was taught in the school. . . . One of the most popular books in the school, it was said, is 'What Every Worker Should Know.' It is by Earl Browder, Head of the Communist Party, U. S. A."

Among the subjects taught in the schools were: "How to conduct a strike," "How to take over the reins of the United States, especially the millions plain," "How to bring about a general strike, and then seize and operate the plants," "How to overthrow the United States Government and establish a Soviet Union." These subjects were named in a letter from the Federal Grand Jury Association for the Southern District of New York signed by its president James H. Baggett. "Nothing whatever to say," he said, "the only word from Hopkins in answer to the charge."

A Moscow-printed Primer was used by the FERA schools in New York. Approved by the Russian Committee of Education, it contained a 100,000 copy printing.

Included in the workers education program of the FERA was the establishment of Summer Camps for unemployed women. In these camps to free discussion of the principal platforms of the political parties. Communist and political parties took place. The program here in approval of none other than Mr. (Continued on page 4)

HARRY L. HOPKINS

(Continued from page 1.)

In June of 1934 he advocated the change of the relief set-up to a more permanent form. The program would embrace outright pensions to certain classes of unemployed, a semi-permanent public works program and co-operation of industrial employers. This was recommended to the following session of Congress. No doubt the Social Security Act of 1935, wherein are employees as well as the employer are assessed a graduated amount to insure old age security, was influenced by the measures advocated by Hopkins.

Hopkins was sent to Europe in July 1934 by Roosevelt to study the social insurance and housing laws in several countries, in preparation for legislation at the next session. The New York Times of July 20, 1934, said of the trip:

"Leaving his spending machine in full operation, Mr. Hopkins has gone abroad to study what he calls 'unemployment insurance.' His experience in Alhambra in Washington has persuaded him of two things, in which the President heartily concurs: 1. That direct relief rolls will always be with us. 2. That unemployment insurance

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/9/85 BY [redacted]

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Harry "Too Damn Dumb" Hopkins

PERSONAL

(For Your Scrap Book)

October 21, 1936

HOPKINS, HARRY L.—

Roosevelt appointee as FERA, CWA, WPA Administrator and head of Federal Surplus Relief Corporation. Harry "Too Damned Dumb," "Spend A Billion" Hopkins first came into the New Deal picture through the Henry Street Settlement of New York City, where his sister is an "aide" to Lillian D. Wald.

His early record is very sketchy. In his biography in "Who's Who in America" he does not mention his parentage, consequently does not take us into his confidence to tell us that his mother was a Canadian with an alien aspect toward life. We are indebted to Simon & Schuster's book, "The New Dealers" (New York, 1934, page 180) for illuminating side-lights on his early career.

Hopkins was born in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1890, where his father was a harness-maker. His college education was obtained at Grinnell College, Iowa, which is a hot-bed of radical teaching. He was graduated therefrom in 1912, and received from his alma mater an honorary LL.D in 1935, after he had "brought home the bacon" by his work for the "Roosevelt Revolution." He majored in economics and sociology, and played basketball. On the advice of one of his professors, he gave up the idea of becoming a rural journalist and went East. In New York he joined that radical coterie which gravitated around Lillian Wald and Florence Kelly (Wischnewetsky), and was associated in social work with Frances Perkins (present-day Secretary of Labor), Herbert Lehman and Bob Wagner, all pillars of the New Deal. It is interesting to note (via "The New Dealers," above mentioned) that his first political experience was obtained

as a spectator at the Republican Convention of 1912 in Chicago, where the Taft-Roosevelt feud split the party. Later, he had a gallery seat at the Democratic Convention in Baltimore where Woodrow Wilson was nominated, and witnessed the ballyhoo effects of a boisterous gallery packed with Wilson boosters recruited from a friendly Baltimore ward by the budding politico Franklin D. Roosevelt.

His first conspicuous job was as supervisor for the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and was executive secretary of the New York City Board of Child Welfare during the War period, 1918-22. He was division manager in New Orleans for the American Red Cross, 1922-24, then came back to New York as assistant director for the Assn. for Improving the Condition of the Poor, spending a winter in London, England, in between, where he studied the municipal health service, which he admired for its efficiency and freedom from politics. He later became head of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Assn. Hopkins did not meet Roosevelt until 1928, when they were both working for Al Smith. When FDR organized the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration for the State of New York in 1931, (the first state agency of this type and the prototype of the FERA) he made Hopkins head of it. He logically followed his chief to Washington to head the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Nobody else was ever considered for the job. He has been Works Progress Administrator, by Roosevelt's appointment since 1935.

Hopkins, in 1930 was a member of the "Mary Ware Bennett Defense Committee," formed by the Communist-aiding American Civil Liberties Union, for the defense of the radical Mary Ware Bennett who had written an obscene sex pamphlet which caused her arrest.

He was appointed F.E.R.A. Administrator in May of 1933 and in October of that same year in an address before welfare workers from six states gathered in Kansas City, Mo., he said that as he saw it, the country was going to have a million more families on relief at the start of winter, than there were the year before and pleaded with State and local agencies to match federal funds in order to cope with the situation. This in spite of the many New Deal agencies which had been set up by the Administration to end the depression. So Hopkins, according to the "Rockford Daily Journal," gave birth to the idea of the Civil Works Administration program. He sold the idea to Harold Ickes and together they sold it to Roosevelt, who appointed Hopkins to administer it in November of 1933.

Hopkins was given further power in May, 1934, when he was named to succeed Frank C. Walker as head of the Housing program. Hopkins hoped to use this agency to fill the gap occasioned by the closing down of the C.W.A. at the end of March, 1934, thus throwing the many people who had been taken off the relief rolls back on the F.E.R.A. He had the idea of combining subsistence farms and subsistence operation of idle factories. This would of course necessitate the moving of many families in the larger cities into areas where there were insufficient facilities to accommodate the added burden, and would also require the entry of the Federal Government into the field of agricultural and manufacturing production. Fortunately for America the idea did not progress very far.

He was named by Roosevelt to the Industrial Emergency Committee in July, 1934. And was appointed to the N.R.A. Policy Committee in September of the same year.

(Continued on page 2)

HARRY L. HOPKINS

(Concluded from page 3)

Roosevelt, according to the Chicago Tribune of October 23, 1934.

The FERA schools in California, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Highlander Folk School, in Tennessee, Commonwealth College, Mena, Arkansas, have all been charged with the teaching of Communism. Hilda Smith the head of the workers' education division admits it. "Washington Merry-Go-Round," says she has the 100 per cent backing of Harry Hopkins.

In March, 1935, Governor Davey, of Ohio filed a warrant for the arrest of Harry Hopkins charging him with criminal libel. Governor Davey dared Hopkins to come into the State and be served and face the issue in open court. The charge grew out of Hopkins' statement in regard to the fact that "he had incontrovertible evidence" of political corruption in the administration of relief in Ohio. Needless to say Hopkins did not take the dare.

Hopkins hired another "parlor bolshevik" in the person of Floyd Dell to serve as historian of the FERA. (See Items, Oct. 9, 1935.)

Hopkins asserted that critics' estimates of the proportion of foreign born on relief were too high. According to the WPA Classification of Workers as of September 1, 1935, including the S. Boro Division and the City Wide Division of the City of New York alone, there are more aliens on relief rolls than there are veterans. Their own figures are:

"Non-Citizens, 13,346; Veterans, 11,777."

In other words, in the City of New York alone, there are 1,569 more aliens on the relief rolls than there are veterans.

Another New Dealer, Aubrey Williams, (see Items of 8-12-36), dissociated himself from the main works program to assume charge of the National Youth Administration, which is closely affiliated with the WPA. Until his resignation Williams was considered Hopkins' first assistant. The duties he relinquished were taken over by Col. Lawrence Westbrook and Howard O. Hunter.

Hopkins is called the world's largest theatrical producer by some of his aides.

In May, 1936, Henry Osberg, director of writers' projects, reported that 6,500 writers were then at work for WPA.

Dr. Nikolai Sokoloff, speaking for musicians' projects, said WPA has brought the best in music within the grasp of the average citizen.

Edwin Cahill, art director, said 5,300 artists are in WPA employment."

The amazing scope of influence wielded by Hopkins is revealed in his request for funds to continue the WPA. He asked for 1,425 million dollars which was granted in the First Deficiency Act, 1936, approved on June 22, 1936. The "Washington Star" of May 14, 1936, reveals the fields in which he is active:

Mr. Hopkins has "\$413,250,000 for highways, roads and streets, \$156,750,000 for public buildings, \$156,750,000 for parks and other recreational facilities, \$171,000,000 for public utilities, \$128,250,000 for flood control and other conservation, \$85,500,000 for white-collar projects, \$85,500,000 for women's projects, \$71,250,000 for National Youth Administration, \$71,250,000 for miscellaneous work projects and \$85,500,000 for rehabilitation and relief to farmers—altogether a very considerable amount of money to be committed into the personal management of any individual."

Not even in wartime has any other individual official ever been accorded such power as Mr. Hopkins acquired when the Deficiency Act of 1936 was approved.

Hopkins has repeatedly denied the presence of political graft or manipulation in the administration of the WPA, yet when the State Legislature of Pennsylvania instituted an investigation into the relief situation within its own state, Hopkins effectively blocked the investigation by a direct order, based on the opinion of a member of his legal staff. He thereby assumed all responsibility for the official acts of his organization. Its length prevents its quotation here.

A pamphlet entitled "Our Job with the WPA" printed by the U. S. Government Printing Office, and released by the WPA, has a section called "Workers' Handbook WPA." On pages 15 and 16 there are three questions and answers which bear quoting:

"Q. Do I have a right to complain about wages, hours, and other things? A. Yes. You can complain to the foreman, the local WPA office, the State Administrator, or the Labor Policies Board in Washington. Q. May a union of project workers send a representative or delegate to the WPA district officials to adjust grievances? A. Yes. Q. Does the representative have to be a WPA worker. A. No."

It will be recalled that recently the WPA recognized the extreme radical Workers Alliance as the official organization representing WPA workers.

Hopkins explains the theory of his WPA policy in a paragraph in his recent book "Spending to Save," thus:

"We have turned over the American board and seen how many people live like dogs beneath its plenty. Our work must be work for the worker by the worker."

Hopkins appointed Victor F. Ridder to succeed General Hugh Johnson as Works Progress Administrator for New York City in 1935.

Victor Ridder announced that Communist agitators are NOT to be dropped from the WPA in New York; that 179 IDENTIFIED AGITATORS, listed in the relief ranks will not be disturbed and that "COMMUNISTS WILL BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE ON THE RELIEF ROLLS WHILE ALSO CONTINUING TO ENGAGE IN THEIR COMMUNISTIC EFFORTS AND MOVEMENTS."

Hopkins' claim of political freedom of relief clients is a hollow mockery in view of a talk he made in New York on October 19, before 350 social workers at a luncheon of the Good Neighbor League:

"Governor Landon's program would let the local communities decide on relief, and the townships would put the needy back on the most miserable kind of dole overnight. That's what you can look for if Governor Landon is elected."

Despite his public declaration that "you and I are too damned dumb" to know what it is all about, Hopkins knows what he is doing and where he is going with the Administration, to quote once again from Simon and Schuster's 1934 book, "The New Dealers":

"For he is one of the men who really understands the American experiment and belongs with that select group of men and women who are the New Deal. He is as close to the White House as any of them, if not closer, for he is one of 'F.D.R.'s 'men.' He is newer than Morgenthau, newer than Perkins, but still one of the Roosevelt proteges."

To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace.

—Washington.

HOPKINS, HARRY L. - administrator, works Progress Administration; b. Iowa. His grandmother moved the family from Mass. to Iowa in a covered wagon while his grandfather was fighting in the Union forces. Ed. Grinnell Coll., Iowa, L. L. D., 1935; U. of S. C., LL. D., 1938. First position was in a boys' camp, after which he was with the Assn. for Improving the Conditions of the Poor, directing fresh air work and unemployment relief; from 1913 to 1917, in charge of widows' pensions for the Bd. of Civil Welfare, a municipal job under the NYC adm. of Mayor John Purroy Mitchel; during the war and afterward, he was in charge of civilian relief in New Orleans, and, in addition, was mgr. of the Southern Div. of the Red Cross; in 1922 he returned to N. Y., first to the ADOP again, and finally to the directorship of the Temporary Emergency Relief Adm.; later he moved up to be chmn. of the bd. of that organization; at the time of the disastrous floods in Ohio and Miss. River Valleys at the end of Jan., 1937, he headed a com. including Maj. Gen. Edw. W. Markham, chief of Army Engrs., Lt. Col. F. C. Harrington, Asst. WPA Administrator, Surgeon Gen. Thomas Parran of the U. S. Pub. Health Serv., and James L. Peiser, vice-chmn. of the Am. Red Cross, which inspected devastated areas from Memphis to Cinn., visited the refugee camps, and saw to it that all Govt. resources were being used to the utmost. On May 20, 1933, apptd. administrator, Fed. Emergency Relief Act., and from 1933 to July 1, 1938, spent almost \$8,500,000,000 for unemployment relief; Nov. 9, 1933, apptd. dir., Civil Works Adm., with total Fed. allocations amounting to \$834,000,000 before CWA was terminated, Apr. 1, 1934; upon the termination of the CWA, the WERA began the work of relief; in summer and autumn of 1934, Administrator Hopkins initiated WERA Rural Rehabilitation Program, under which 200,000 farm families mostly in the south were aided in supporting themselves instead of being carried on direct relief; approximately \$50,000,000 worth of seed, farm animals, and equipment was advanced to them with more than half of this amount already repaid. On May 6, 1935, President Roosevelt, by executive order, created the Works Progress Adm. with \$4,880,000,000 appropriated in Apr., 1935 to carry out the works program, the constructive work being as follows: 12,168 pub. buildings, with repairs and improvements on 36,389, and additions to 1,354; 46,255 miles of highways, roads and streets, with repairs and improvements covering 157,342 miles; 19,182 new bridges and 13,738 repaired; more than 11,500 miles of new roadside drainage ditches, with approximately 31,700 miles repaired; 4,269 miles of water mains, aqueducts or distribution lines, with 1,423 miles repaired; 3,330 storage dams, with 283 repaired or improved, 15,855 other dams for erosion control and general conservation with 145 of this type repaired; 6,311 miles of storm and sanitary sewers, with 2,121 miles improved. The Natl. Youth Adm., a part of WPA, and under Mr. Hopkins' direction, is aiding more than 500,000 boys and girls in education and work project.

("Who's Who in the Nation's Capital" - 1938-9 Edition)

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



JCM:md
62-59396

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 28, 1942

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: RUMOR RE HARRY L. HOPKINS' USE
OF GOVERNMENT REQUISITIONED BOAT

Reference is made to my memorandum dated October 6, 1942, in the above captioned matter, wherein I advised that Mr. E. Willoughby Middleton, an attorney of Rochester, New York, had stated that instant story regarding Mr. Hopkins was circulated in Rochester by Mr. Fulton Lewis, Jr., the radio news commentator who had told it at a social gathering.

I desire to advise that Mr. Fulton Lewis, Jr., upon interview at Radio Station WOL, 1627 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; advised that instant rumor was related to him around the latter part of August by Mr. William B. Dolph, the Manager of Radio Station WOL. He stated that he understood that Mr. Dolph heard it from a source in New York. Mr. Lewis advised that on September 6, 1942, he had occasion to attend a banquet in Rochester, New York, at which about 30 people were in attendance. He stated that while drinking cocktails prior to the banquet he told the story to a small group assembled around him and at the same time told them that he was endeavoring to verify it. He stated that at the conclusion of the banquet he was called upon to make a talk and as he arose one of the persons present requested him in a loud voice to tell the story regarding Mr. Hopkins which he had previously related. Mr. Lewis advised that this was an extremely embarrassing moment for him but that he had no other alternative except to tell the story as it had been related to him. He stated that he did impress upon his audience the fact that it was only an unconfirmed rumor and that he was then in the process of checking its authenticity. He stated that he subsequently telephonically contacted Mr. Roy Fruehauf at Detroit and was advised by Mr. Fruehauf that that portion of the story regarding the boat being taken from him by the Navy while on a cruise was untrue and also that portion which indicated that his captain had told him that Mr. Hopkins had been aboard the boat on his honeymoon. Mr. Lewis advised that Mr. Fruehauf informed him that he did not know what use was subsequently made of his boat after it had been acquired by the Navy. Mr. Lewis stated that he then contacted the Navy Department and learned that there was no basis for the story.

Mr. Lewis advised that to his knowledge this rumor is still being circulated, and in this connection, he expressed his willingness to expose it as being without foundation during the course of one of his news broadcasts, provided that he was specifically requested to do so.



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

COPIES DESTROYED
348 OCT 28 1964

36 NOV 22 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



PJW:JDR

Call 4:44 PM

Typed 4:59 PM

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 8, 1942

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Assistant SAC Drayton called from New York, pursuant to my conversation with him earlier in the afternoon, with reference to the Harry Hopkins matter. Mr. Drayton reported a copy of the advertisement, mentioned by Mr. Hopkins in his letter of December 7, 1942, has been secured. The material was printed by Edwin Cox for the New York Subway Advertising Company, 630 Fifth Avenue. The advertisement appearing during the month of November read, "Neat Knot. The knot that wedded Miss Louise Macy and Harry Hopkins is a twist of gold rope made into a ring." On the card appears a drawing of a woman with her hand raised in such a way that a ring of some kind can be seen on her finger.

I inquired if the advertisement definitely uses a picture of Mrs. Hopkins, and Mr. Drayton said he did not know; however, he supposed it was a drawing which was a fairly good facsimile of Mrs. Hopkins. To my inquiry, Mr. Drayton said it definitely was a drawing.

I asked Mr. Drayton to forward this advertisement to the Bureau, marked for my attention in order that a copy may be forwarded to Mr. Hopkins. I advised Mr. Drayton I would determine in the meantime whether any further action is desired.

Mr. Drayton commented that these drawings are published to create interest, and he has never seen anything that is particularly objectionable in any of them. He advised that the drawings are titled "Private Lives, by Edwin Cox."

No further action will be taken by the New York office unless it is advised to the contrary.

Respectfully,

P. J. Wacks

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CC-287



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 8, 1942

PJW:DMP
Time 2:00 P.M.
Typed 2:30 P.M.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

(file)

Pursuant to your instructions I called Assistant SAC Drayton in New York with reference to the attached letter from Harry L. Hopkins, dated December 7, 1942, which letter indicates that Mr. Hopkins has been advised the subway in New York is using a drawing of Mrs. Hopkins in connection with an advertisement known as "Important Facts about Important Lives." The letter indicates that the drawing appeared in the subway sometime early in November.

Mr. Drayton was asked to have an appropriate check made to determine whether Mrs. Hopkins' picture is being used for advertising purposes as above indicated.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Peter J. Wacks

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

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January 20, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/15/80 BY [redacted]

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Mr. Westbrook Pegler
Scripps-Howard Newspapers
230 Park Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

Your letter dated January 14, 1943, and enclosure have been received and their contents noted.

Your thoughtfulness in forwarding this information to me is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

53 JAN 23 1943

JAN 20 3 31 PM '43
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

JAN 20 3 05 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

January 14th
19 45.

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Fendon
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Sometime ago an agent of your department, whose name I don't recall, asked me concerning a rumor to the effect that Harry Hopkins and his bride had spent their honeymoon on a requisitioned yacht. At that time I had had, and had thrown away, two anonymous letters repeating this rumor. I told him I would tell him about any further repetition and therefore I am sending you a communication which arrived a few days ago. I do now know the source, and the envelope was thrown away.

Sincerely,

Westbrook Regler

WP/nmh

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/25/85 BY [redacted]

Mr. Hoover

What do you expect from such an expert on "travelling" ?????

Why, haven't you heard what happened last summer when a big hearted patriotic member of the almost extinct "RICH CLASS" tendered his yacht free to the New Dealers (from the bottom of the deck).... They of course accepted and were to take it on a specified date..... but sent for it to Newport and demanded it, and took it about one week ahead of time..... The reason must have been very important... sure 'nuff.... THE HOP had to hop off on it for his honeymoon.... Some crust. Check it up.....

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7c

No action,
Jem

ENCLOSURE

62-59396-27

Lexington, Kentucky
January 16, 1943

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
ON 10-10-85

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am attaching hereto two communications received by me from [redacted] a confidential informant of the New York Office.

[redacted] became known to the Louisville Office the past summer through reporting some unamerican remarks and suspicious activities of [redacted] alien enemies, employed to manage the [redacted] farm near Lancaster, Kentucky. Both of these alien enemies have since been placed in an internment camp on the orders of the Attorney General.

[redacted] are New Yorkers and in the past have divided their time between New York City and their farm in Kentucky. [redacted]

I interviewed [redacted] on Sunday, January 10, while she and her husband were in Kentucky, concerning a lead for this office in the Barbara Hutton espionage case. At that time [redacted] mentioned to me the smear campaign against Mrs. Harry Hopkins and upon her return to New York wrote the attached letters to me along with some information concerning the Hutton case.

These letters and a copy of my reply to [redacted] are being submitted to you in view of your possible personal interest in the subject matter.

Very truly yours,

Larry Kerley,
Resident Agent.

Give immediate attention.

Enclosures - 3 &

61 APR 17 1943

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

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RECORDED & INDEXED
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14 JAN 30 1943

LT. Kerley
1-23-43
JRM

Lexington, Kentucky
January 16, 1943

[redacted]
Hotel St. Regis
New York City

Dear [redacted]

I want to thank you for your promptness in submitting information on the case I discussed with you last Sunday.

Concerning the Hopkins matter, I regret that I am not in a position to be of any use in the case since my present assignment in Kentucky confines my investigations to this State. All assignments of personnel in the Bureau are handled by Bureau headquarters in Washington.

In view of the nature of your information I am submitting same to Mr. Hoover on this date.

Dotty and I enjoyed very much seeing you and [redacted] on your recent whirlwind visit and trust that time will not weigh so heavily on you on your next trip. Our best regards to [redacted]

Sincerely,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/80 BY [redacted]

b7D

b7D

b6
b7C

HOTEL ST. REGIS
New York

Dear Mr. Kerley:

I am sending you some preliminary stuff, and a letter, in reference to Mr. & Mrs. Harry Hopkins. Mrs. Hopkins, who is a friend of mine, is currently smeared in, order to embarrass the President, as they are his closest friends and living at the White House.

Her sister told me that J. E. Hoover is very anxious to track down the rumors as he is devoted to Harry Hopkins, who in turn is the Assistant to the President.

I have some interesting information on this, and probably can get more, and I think it could bring you and Mrs. Kerley East in a second. Do not hand it over to anyone as I want you to have it. Thanking you again for everything and sending Mrs. Kerley and you my best regards - also from

b7D

Sincerely,

/s/

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/85 BY

b6
b7C

CABLE ADDRESS "SAINT REGIS NEW-YORK"

Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-Fifth Street

New York

Dear Mr Kerley,

For some time now, an insidious campaign, by isolationist papers has been carried on, against Mr and Mrs Harry Hopkins. Mrs Hopkins, the former Louise G. Macy is a good friend of mine, and the smear campaign annoyed me a great deal.

I had called Mrs Hopkins's sister today about it as I found out a few disgusting lies and who said them. I did not want to contact Louise at the White House where they are living.

Gertrude Macy told me, that they are very upset, and agreed with me, that it is an organized smear aimed at the President.

She told me, that Harry Hopkins and Louise are in contact with Mr Hoover on the matter, but had no idea on who is spreading the matter further.

It seems to me, that it would be a good idea if you could come to New York with Mrs Kerley, and work this thing out, as Gertrude tells me everyone from the President down wants it checked.

One of the gossip mongers is the Duke Di Verdure (a jeweler) I believe I mentioned his name to you. You see the Senate is demanding an investigation of Harry Hopkins and his wife, who according to some people has received a half a million dollars worth of emeralds from Lord Beaverbrook.

This however is a matter I would discuss with your good self or with Mr Hoover, as it is not possible to discuss it with someone who does not

ENCLOSURE

62-59396-28

3

D

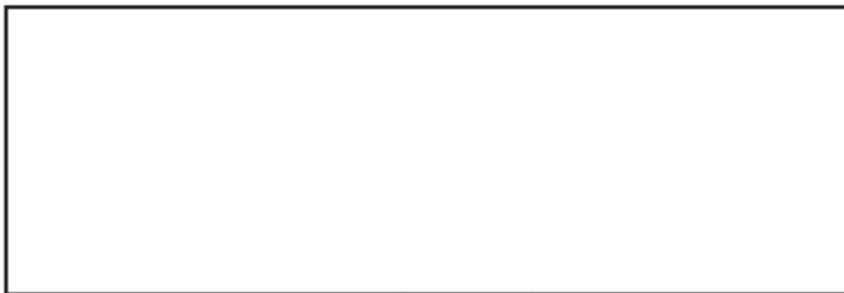
realize the magnitude of the situation.
The entire thing has a fascist and nazi background.

Louise Hopkins is at a hospital every day of the week, she is a captain of nurses aids, and that is why I spoke to Gertrude instead.

Let me know if you want to do anything on this I think it would be very interesting.

With very best regards to Mrs Kerley and yourself:

b7D



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/83 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-Fifth Street

New York

Dear Mr Kerley -

I am sending you some preliminary stuff and a letter, in reference to Mr & Mrs Harry Hopkins. Mrs Hopkins, who is a friend of mine is currently smeared in order to embarrass the President, as they are his closest friends, and living at the White House.

Her sister told me, that J. E. Hoover is very anxious to turn down the rumors as he is devoted to Harry Hopkins, who in turn is the assistant to the President.

(OVER)

ENCLOSURE

62 - 59376 - 28

I have some interesting
information on this, and
probably can get more, and
I think it could be
yours and Mrs Kerley see
in a second. Do not
hand it over, to anyone
as I want you to have it.
Thanking you again for
everything and sending
Mrs Kerley and you my
best regards - Also from

b7D

Sincerely

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

February 23, 1943

DML:LHH
Call: 8:20 PM
Typed: 9:30 PM

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

While discussing other matters, Special Agent Doyle advised that he had been checking on the Harry Hopkins matter, with which the Director is familiar, and which matter the Director had requested that Agent Doyle check into. Relative to the stories concerning the \$50,000 emerald, the \$50.00 dinner that Baruch gave Mrs. Hopkins, the Penthouse Mrs. Hopkins is supposed to have at the Statler, etc., it is Harry Hopkins' opinion that they are all based on German propaganda.

Mr. Doyle advised that while he was in Washington recently, the Director gave him the names of the only two friends that Hopkins knew his wife had in New York and asked that he determine whether there is any connection between them and any people that might be against the President. Mr. Doyle stated that through special service contacts it was learned that one of the two friends, Dumpy Oelrichs, has as her closest friend an authoress named Neysa McMein, and the two of them are seen a great deal in a place called the Colony Club Restaurant. Neysa McMein is working with the daughter of the publisher of the New York Daily News, Lishia Patterson (phonetic), on a comic strip.

Mr. Doyle stated that it is a well known fact that Mrs. Hopkins can not keep her mouth shut to Dumpy, who in turn tells it to her best friend, Neysa McMein, who is working in close harmony with the daughter of the publisher of the Daily News.

I advised Mr. Doyle that this information would be brought to the attention of the Director.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]



Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

62-59396-29
FEB 25 1943

INDEXED

55 MAR 8 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



EAT:DS

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
March 10, 1948

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

b6
b7C

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. MILTON LADD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

At a recent staff conference Mr. Oscar Cox in the presence of the Attorney General informed Mr. Hoover that the Bureau should incorporate in its file the contents of several broadcasts of German origin which referred to the purported gift of a quantity of emeralds to Mrs. Harry Hopkins by Lord Beaverbrook. Mr. Cox pointed out that inquiries by the Bureau into this matter should be predicated upon the presumption that the stories concerning this alleged gift were undoubtedly of Axis origin and consequently should be investigated and their sources determined.

Very truly yours,

E. A. Tamm

no action to be taken



19 MAR 18 1948

RECORDED & INDEXED

DIS

62-59396-30
F. B. I.
16 MAR 13 1948
Five

347

MEMORANDUM

February 10, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
FROM: Oscar Cox

Here are the Axis broadcasts that I mentioned
to you this morning.

Oscar Cox

DECLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED]
C: 4-18-00
#914008

Attachment

1 ENCL. 18

to [REDACTED]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

d120

62-59396-31		
F	B	I
16 MAR 13 1943		

99
1-10-43

b6
b7C

FOREIGN BROADCAST INTELLIGENCE
SERVICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 20, 1943

Berlin to North & South America, January 16, 1943 German News:

"NEW YORK: The United States press states with indignation that the wife of the head of Lend-Lease system, Harry Hopkins, received from Lord Beaverbrook, the English Minister, responsible in this field, emeralds to the value of 5,000,000 dollars. Although the White House issued sharp denial, various New York newspapers continue to express themselves sharply against such a case of corruption."

- - - - -

Berlin to North & South America, January 9, 1943 German Radio
Review Hans Kraitsir:

"Then a certain Harry Hopkins who is described as Roosevelt's right hand, in the American Magazine predicts to the citizen of the United States: "You and your family will be mobilized."

"Please let us for a moment consider the road which led to these words which are now spoken in the United States.

"First of all, Mr. Roosevelt got his compatriots used to the war by telling them they would make maximum profit (?) by delivering arms, remaining of course strictly neutral. Arms

b6
b7C

4-18-00
914508
2 - 59376 - 51
ENCLOSURE

had to be paid for in cash and could not be brought to Europe on American ships.

"The abolition of the "Cash" condition followed the purchase of arms, by the British from Americans and this led to the "Lense Lend Act" by which the United States made the war one of their concerns, the carrying out of which they however left to the British for the time being."



RRR:MGC

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

April 6, 1943

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____ b6
Mr. Carson _____ b7C
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: CIRCULARS CRITICIZING
MR. HARRY HOPKINS

Lieutenant Commander Rhea Whitley called and advised that he had received information that some vicious and malicious circulars were being distributed in Washington concerning Mr. Harry Hopkins. These circulars allegedly refer to recent material appearing in the Times-Herald newspaper which dealt with the matters of elaborate gifts being given to Mrs. Hopkins, the use of a government-owned yacht by Hopkins while on his honeymoon, and the recent incident of the "\$1000 per plate" dinner given by Hopkins.

Whitley desired to know whether the Bureau had seen any of these alleged circulars, and if so, whether an investigation has been conducted to determine their origin. In reply to my inquiry, Whitley stated that he had not seen any of the circulars, although he had been informed that they were presently being circulated in Washington. He also promised that should he obtain a copy of the circular in question, he would forward it to the writer.

Whitley also mentioned that he had discussed this same matter with Mr. Tamm. The writer informed Commander Whitley this would be checked into, and he would be advised of the results of the check.

Respectfully,

R. R. Roach



55 APR 20 1943

359

RECORDED
INDEXED

65-59396-32
B I
9 APR 9 1943
FIVE



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

April 6, 1943

EAT:JDR

Call 2:00 PM

Typed 2:11 PM

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

John L. Hopkins
H. H. [unclear]
b6
b7C

Harry L. Hopkins

Lieutenant Commander Whitley of ONI advised me telephonically that a captain in the Office of the Under-Secretary of the Navy requested him yesterday to make an investigation of the source of certain scurrilous literature in the form of circular letters being distributed around naval establishments concerning Harry Hopkins. After Commander Whitley's inquiring and being advised by the captain that he had no reason to think this literature originated with naval personnel, that he had none of this literature and that he had seen none, Commander Whitley informed the captain he thought there was no naval interest from an investigative standpoint, and if such literature was being distributed, the navy yards were probably just one of the many places where it was being distributed by outsiders. He advised the captain he would pass on this information to the FBI. The captain told Commander Whitley he would attempt to secure some of this literature which is, apparently, the same type of material which the Times-Herald has been playing up for some time about one thousand dollar dinners and the like.

I thanked Commander Whitley for furnishing this information, and I advised that if we develop anything of interest in the matter, he will be advised.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Tamm



30 1943

RECORDED

62-57396-33
APR 24
FIVE
FILED

4/9/43
and Whitley advised
we have not received
the circulars but would
advise him if received.
4/19/43
and Whitley advised
inquiry would not obtain
original
request is made of time
at this time
R.R.L.

THE WHITE HOUSE - *Handwritten initials*
WASHINGTON

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Acers.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Mumford.....
Mr. Starke.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

e
guy
PERSONAL

September 14th
1943

Dear Edgar:

Thanks so much for taking the trouble to write me a note on the 13th enclosing copy of the article in "Script". I agree with you that it is occasionally good to read something nice about yourself.

b6
b7C

I have been laid up in the hospital for 2 or 3 weeks, but I hope to see you soon.

Very cordially yours,

Handwritten signature
HARRY L. HOPKINS

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
10th and Constitution,
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/80 BY [redacted]

RECORDED

62-59396-34
F B I
16 SEP 18 1943
mt
9/22/43
ms. [unclear]
252
47 SEP 25 1943

U.S. DEPT.
Transcrib d

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation

GEORGE H. DRICCS
HARRY L. HOPKINS, VICTIM
MURKIN

Attention: Mr. Henry A. Schweinhaut

This is to confirm the recent telephonic conversation between Mr. Schweinhaut and Mr. J. A. Martin of the FBI Laboratory concerning the evidence and enlargements which are to be used in the trial of this case as well as to confirm the conversation with Mr. Laynard Smith when he visited the Document Section of the Laboratory on May 18, 1944, and examined the enlarged charts made from the evidence in this case.

As was pointed out the exhibits which have been prepared to be used in this case are made from known signatures of Mr. Hopkins and from three checks furnished by Mr. Hopkins. These known signatures and checks are being retained by the Bureau so as to be available for trial purposes when needed. The three checks which were retained are numbers 1, 141, and 145. The remainder of the checks have been returned to Mr. Hopkins. Mr. Smith advised that the exhibits were clearly sufficient for trial purposes and were entirely satisfactory.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15 BY [redacted]

RECORDED

100-5396-35
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 23 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Coffey _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Acers _____
Carson _____
Harbo _____
Hendon _____
Murford _____
Starke _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

153
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
MAY 30 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b6
b7c

WV:16
8/1/44

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Harry:

As of possible interest to you, there is transmitted
herewith a monograph prepared concerning Guatemala,

The information contained therein has been compiled
from data based on reports received from confidential and re-
liable sources.

With expressions of my highest esteem.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

RECORDED

62-57596-36
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 11 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
AUG - 11 1944
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY

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b7c

h
62-59396-37
CHANGED TO
14-2525-1

151

L-60a

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F.B.I. TELETYPE

CLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

DECODED COPY (X) u

FBI ST PAUL [2-27-45] (X)
DIRECTOR URGENT
ATOM DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
#914008 ON 4-18-00

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU HARRY HOPKINS ARRIVED ROCHESTER,
MINNESOTA THIS EVENING FOR A CHECK UP AT MAXO CLINIC WHICH IS
EXPECTED TO LAST TWO WEEKS.

RHODES.

RECEIVED: [2-27-45] (X) 11:45 PM

RECORDED 166-59376-38
EX (X) MAR 1 1945
FBI - RBH

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
order to protect the Bureau's coding systems. (X) u

[MAR 1 1945] (X) u

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy b6
Mr. Carson b7C
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy b6
b7C

CBS:EVO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 9, 1945

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins
The White House
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
ON 12-9-85

b6
b7C

Dear Harry:

I thought that the President and you would be interested in the two volumes which are enclosed.

One of the books contains a summary of information regarding the operation of the German Intelligence and Security Forces during World War II.

The other book contains a collection of charts and diagrams which graphically depict pertinent points in major espionage cases handled by this Bureau prior to and during World War II.

b6
b7C

Some of the information contained in this material has been obtained from double agents who are presently being operated by this Bureau and it should, therefore, be considered as confidential in order that the source may be protected.

With expressions of my highest esteem,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures
DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
ON 4-18-00
#914008

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAILED 3

12 1945 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

EX-16

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 9, 1945

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins
The White House
Washington, D. C.

10/9/85
CLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

b6
b7C

Dear Harry:

I thought that the President and you would be interested in the two volumes which are enclosed.

One of the books contains a summary of information regarding the operation of the German Intelligence and Security Forces during World War II.

The other book contains a collection of charts and diagrams which graphically depict pertinent points in major espionage cases handled by this Bureau prior to and during World War II.

Some of the information contained in this material has been obtained from double agents who are presently being operated by this Bureau and it should, therefore, be considered as confidential in order that the source may be protected.

With expressions of my highest esteem,

Sincerely yours,

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
ON 4-18-06

Enclosures #914008

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

COPIES DESTROYED
848 OCT 28 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

62-59396-40

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 10, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MR J EDGAR HOOVER

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Mr. Hopkins has
asked me to return to you the
two documents enclosed. They are
entitled "Espionage - World War II -
A Summary" and "Espionage - World
War II - Charts".

Sincerely yours,

D.E. Krauss

Secretary to Mr. Harry L. Hopkins

encls.

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-00 BY #914008

Mr. Tolson	b6
Mr. E. A. Tamm	b7C
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Handwritten signature

*Detached
Esp. Section
4/27*

CH
1-ENCL
26
EX-29

RECORDED 62-59396-40
F B I
32 MAY 12 1945
EX 103-10
53 MAY 17 1945

JHM:am1

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : Mr. Nichols

SUBJECT:

DATE: May 10, 1945

2901

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
 Mr. Clegg ✓
 Mr. Coffey ✓
 Mr. Glavin ✓
 Mr. Ladd ✓
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Tracy ✓
 Mr. Mohr ✓
 Mr. Carson ✓
 Mr. Egan ✓
 Mr. Gurnea ✓
 Mr. Jones ✓
 Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
 Tele. Room ✓
 Mr. Nease ✓
 Miss Beahm ✓
 Miss Gandy ✓

Through one of my contacts, I have obtained a transcript discreetly of the statement made by Harry Hopkins over the NBC Network on May 8th, in an exclusive interview with Leif Eid, NBC commentator.

Hopkins said that if the soldiers of the United States, Great Britain, France and Soviet Russia can all fight together and win victory, then indeed, despite every difficulty, allied statesmen in San Francisco will create the basis for a just and lasting peace. The complete statement is attached.

Attachment (137)

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

EX-46

62-59396-4

As the bells ring out proclaiming the surrender and destruction of the German army - none of us can forget who has won the victory - it was won by the fighting men of our armed forces and those of our gallant allies. To our soldiers, our sailors and airmen - to British Tommies O to the Red Army - to the underground fighters - belongs the everlasting glory. Millions have been wounded and killed that we might be free.

But there can be no real elation in America until our cruel and bitter enemy in Japan is completely destroyed. Every soldier - sailor and marine in that far Pacific must know that the whole might of our country will be thrown against that last stronghold of tyranny.

One thing above all we owe to the Allied armies in Europe - and that is this - had they not crushed the Nazi power in Germany, the San Francisco conference could never have taken place. For Hitler would have ordered us to Berlin and the whole world would have been the slaves of Germany.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/25/81 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

But now we can go to whatever church we like - no one can choose our friends - we can say what we please - all because American, British, French and Russian boys fought, bled and died on the battlefields.

100-57574-21

2903

Surely if the soldiers of the United States, Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union can fight together and win a glorious military victory - then indeed in spite of every difficulty - the Allied statesmen in San Francisco will create the basis for a just and lasting peace.

I cannot but think today of that little garden in Hyde Park - where Franklin Roosevelt lies in eternal peace. No man in the world contributed more to victory and freedom. And I believe that the free people of the earth will forever bless his name.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

RWB: ems

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : Mr. D. N. Ladd

SUBJECT:

DATE: November 12, 1945

call received

4:35 pm

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Tele. Room	
Miss Gandy	

At this time, Special Agent J. J. Ryan of the New York Office called to advise that at 4:30 p.m. today, Mr. Harry Hopkins, who is in room 1041, Memorial Hospital, New York City, telephone Regent 4-5500, telephoned the New York Office to get in touch with you. Agent Ryan advised Mr. Hopkins that you were not in New York City but that he would get the message to you. Mr. Hopkins stated that he would like for you to call him.

Action taken:

The information was telephonically furnished to Miss Henshaw in your office so that you could be advised.

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/18/85 BY SP-1

RECORDED

EX-103

162-59396-42

11-12-45
J. J. Ryan

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

DATE: May 17, 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/9/85 BY

While talking to Bert Hettler on other matters he volunteered the information that General Hodges has secured copies of some letters from China addressed to Harry Hopkins from known Communists furnishing reports of their activities. These are now in possession of Military Intelligence. Bert thought we might want to check discreetly and possibly try to secure copies of them.

Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED

EX-19

INDEXED

167-59396-43

32 MAY 23 1946

DE-INDEXED

DATE 6/13/86

23

This sounds

silly to me.

I recommend

no action

5721

104

12

REC-19

62-59396-44

August 26, 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY #256686

[Redacted]

INFORMANT

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of August 20th and I want to thank you for your kind remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped that our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance and trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy.

Enclosed is literature which contains suggestions all of us can use in combating the menace of communism. Perhaps you may also wish to read my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." The former was written with the hope that it would help its readers gain an insight into the true nature of communist activities. The latter is a comprehensive study of the development and expansion of communism throughout the world. Copies may be available at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

62-59396-44

Enclosures (5) - See enclosures and note next page

DTP:jls (3)

REC'D MAIL ROOM
AUG 29 1963
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FBI
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MAILED 3
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Conrad	
DeLoach	
Evans	
Gale	
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Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	



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Enclosures (5)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-1-61 LEB Intro
Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
An American's Challenge
The Current Communist Threat

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The late Harry Hopkins, a controversial figure, was an advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

TRUE COPY

August 20, 1963

J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

#256586
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/85 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

I have a question for you.

Can you tell me if Harry Hopkins, formerly in
Pres. Roosevelt's cabinet was a Communist?

I heard a member of the John Birch Society, a
Mr. Scott Stanley state so on a local and Phila radio station -
W. E. E. Z. Chester and WPEN, Phila. Is this true? I would
like to know. I, frankly, am appalled at some of the statements
of the Birch Society. *Pa.*

I hope to hear from you. As an American, I
would like to thank you for a job, well done.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

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REC-19

62-59396-44

AUG 28 1963

ack 8-22-63
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TMD
ITC sub 8/22/63

August 20, 1963

J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have a question
for you.

Can you tell me if
Harry Hopkins, formerly
in Pres. Roosevelt's ^{cabinet} was a
Communist?

CORRESPONDENCE

I heard a member of ⁸²³
the John Birch Society, a

Mr. Scott Stanley state
so on a local and Phila
radio station - W.E.E.Z, Chester
and W.P.E.N, Phila. Is
this true? I would like
to know. I, frankly, am
appalled at some of the
statements of the Birch
Society.

I hope to hear from
you. As an American, I
would like to thank you for
a job, well done.
Sincerely,

AUG 22 10 11 AM '63

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2 1963

Memorandum



Exec AD Adm. _____
Exec AD Inv. _____
Exec AD LES _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Servs. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
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Public Affs. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

~~SECRET~~

To :

Date 4/17/87

From :

Subject : HARRY HOPKINS

~~This memorandum is classified "Secret" in its entirety.~~

PURPOSE:

To provide CI-1A Unit with a progress report on the captioned subject.

RECOMMENDATION:

None, for information only.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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- 1 - [redacted]
(Attn: [redacted])
1 - [redacted]
(Attn: [redacted])
1 - [redacted]
[redacted] (4)

*Records
Pls. fill in
Hopkins' main file:*

CONTINUED-OVER

~~SECRET~~

Classified by: [redacted]
Declassify on: OADR

2 MAY 26 1987

CLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
REASON: 1.5
DECLASSIFY ON: X(1)
#914008

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108 AUG - 7 1987

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum from [redacted]
Re: Harry Hopkins

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DETAILS:

Reurmemo, same caption, dated September 29, 1986.

To date, substantial research has been conducted on captioned subject. All pertinent files on ROBERT and HARRY HOPKINS have been reviewed as well as the main file of [redacted] [redacted] totally approximately 76 sections.

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Thus far, no conclusive evidence has been found linking HARRY HOPKINS with [redacted] Additional research is currently being conducted on [redacted] activities.

Based on the limited amount of information available on ROBERT HOPKINS, there is no indication that he has engaged in espionage or subversive activity against the United States. [redacted] (U)

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It is interesting to note that HOPKINS has been known to exhibit erratic emotional outbursts. For example, on June 14, 1967, HOPKINS called National Airport, Washington, D.C., to complain about the noise level. Hopkins stated that, "if it means coming up there and blowing up National Airport, I'll do it. Something has to change. If it means for our community coming out and laying on the runways, we will do it." HOPKINS was interviewed about this incident and admitted making the threats in a fit of anger.

On August 25, 1968, HOPKINS attended a dinner at the house of [redacted] Washington, D.C. Among the guests was [redacted]

b6
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[redacted] Upon introduction to [redacted] HOPKINS refused to shake his hand, stating he could not bring himself to shake the hand of a representative of the Soviet Union in view of the military repression of the Czechoslovakian people. HOPKINS further stated that Russia's world was tumbling down as a result of this action, and that its allies were turning away from it. HOPKINS said that the Soviet Union is now isolated and that as far as he was concerned this isolation begins now. With this, HOPKINS turned his back on [redacted] and walked away.

CI-1A will be kept apprised of any new developments regarding this matter. The final draft will be completed July 1987.

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1236156-0

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JEM:PES
62-74466

February 19, 1944

THE DIRECTOR

RE: GEORGE N. BRIGGS

Attached hereto is a summary of the pertinent details of the instant case from a prosecutive standpoint. The enclosures consist only of those items of particular significance: (1) [REDACTED]

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(2) The statement furnished by George N. Briggs to Messrs. D. M. Ladd and J. K. Mumford of the Bureau over an oath as to its veracity which, along with other material set forth, discloses his utter disregard for the truth; and (3) [REDACTED]

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Your particular attention is called to the fact that the Bureau's handling of this case has been restricted to and limited by adherence to specific requests and instructions received from the Department. Accordingly, although all outstanding leads of any positive significance have been covered, the case as summarized is not as conclusive from an evidentiary viewpoint as would be the case if we were not hampered by those considerations and the personalities involved.

You will observe that from a simple legal standpoint the charges contained in the indictment can be established in so far as a strong prima facie case is concerned by the direct testimony of approximately four witnesses: Mr. Sparks could lay the groundwork and introduce the basic exhibits; Mr. Harry Hopkins could testify to the fact that the letter was neither prepared nor signed by him and, therefore, was forged; known specimens of Briggs' handwriting, handprinting and typing could be introduced by FBI representatives; and the identification of the evidentiary exhibits with Mr. George N. Briggs could be established by the FBI Laboratory representative. All other material set forth is basically of a negative or rebuttal character and appears to completely obviate the possibility of a denial on the part of George N. Briggs.

The trial of this case in the United States District Court, District of Columbia, has been tentatively set for March 13, 1944.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

GEORGE N. BRIGGS
FORGERY; MAIL FRAUD; FALSE PRETENSES

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WENDELL WILLKIE (see "One Man - Wendell Willkie")

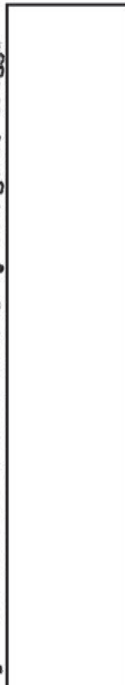
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ENCLOSURES:

#2 Statement executed at FBI by George H. Briggs



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GEORGE N. BRIGGS
FORGERY; MAIL FRAUD; FALSE REPRESENTATIONS

PRINCIPALS INVOLVED

Harry L. Hopkins:

Mr. Hopkins was alleged to have written a letter under date of August 17, 1943, to Dr. Umphrey Lee, inferring that arrangements had been made with Wendell L. Wilkie whereby the latter would cooperate with Mr. Hopkins and Dr. Lee in a political undertaking. The book "One Man - Wendell Wilkie" by quoting this letter purports to show that Mr. Wilkie and Mr. Hopkins were collaborating rather than opposing each other for the good of their respective political parties.

Dr. Umphrey Lee:

Dr. Lee was allegedly the addressee and recipient of the letter referred to above. Dr. Lee is a nationally known educator and at the present time holds the position of President of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

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Mr. Frank Phillips:

C

Phillips is internationally known in the petroleum industry and presently holds the position of Chairman of the Board of the Phillips Petroleum Company, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. He has past acquaintanceship with Mr. Harold L. Ickes through the latter's position as Fuel Oil Coordinator.

Mr.

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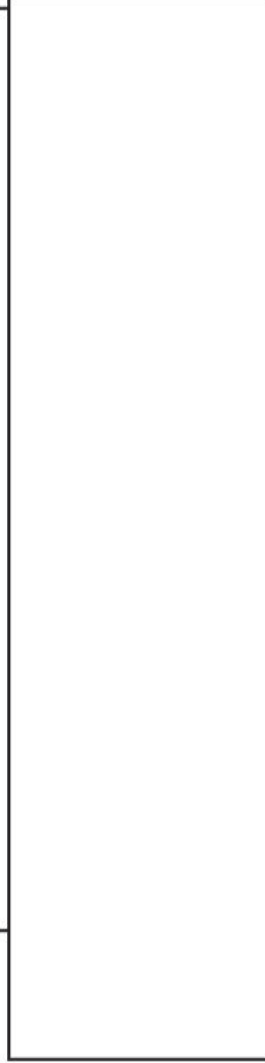
C. Nelson Sparks:

Mr. Sparks is the author of record of the book "One Man --- Wendell Willkie" in which the subject letter of August 17, 1943, was published and which recapitulated the investigative and prosecutive action reported here.

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George N. Briggs:



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George M. Briggs, according to the United States Civil Service application form executed by him October, 1941, was born May 6, 1886, at Dixon, Illinois. Other than for elementary and high school attendance at Dixon, Illinois, he listed no educational background except one year's attendance at Horace Mann Preparatory, New York, New York. Mr. Briggs listed his employment record as follows: July 1936 to September 1936, Evening Mail newspaper, New York, New York -- net annual income \$300 as cub reporter; September 1936 to March 1937, Tribune newspaper, Scranton, Pennsylvania -- annual net income \$450 as cub reporter; March 1937 to June 1939, The American newspaper, Chicago, Illinois -- net annual income \$936 as reporter; June 1939 to 1941, the Chicago Tribune newspaper, Chicago, Illinois -- net annual income \$1300 as writer in the Sunday Department; June 1941 to August 1942, the Press newspaper, New York, New York -- annual net income \$1560 as writer in the Sunday Department; and August 1942 to April 1946 the Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois -- annual net income \$2080 as writer in the Sunday Department; April 1946 to May 1923 with the Despatch-Pioneer Press, St. Paul, Minnesota, at average net annual income of \$2200, as City Editor, Sunday Editor and political writer; May 1923 to June 1941, owner and director of the Minnesota Legislative Research Bureau, St. Paul, Minnesota -- average net annual income \$5000; August 1941 to date of application (October, 1941) Petroleum Coordinator, Washington, D. C. -- annual net income \$4600 as Information Specialist. Supplemental to this chronological history Mr. Briggs made the following statement in his application:

"My experience has been almost exclusively in newspaper offices or in related branches of the newspaper work. In my newspaper career I served in every known reportorial capacity -- copy desk, rewrite, city and Sunday editor, special writer (politics, etc.) and am entirely familiar with make-up, etc. Since leaving the active newspaper profession in 1923 to open an office of my own, I organized and developed and directed a legislative bureau that had for its clients such well known firms as General Mills, Inc., U. S. Steel Corporation, Great Northern Ry. Co., Commerce Clearing House, Minneapolis, Honeywell Heat Reg. Company, Cream of Wheat Corporation, Tobacco Merchants Association and approximately a hundred others of more or less local distinction. The Bureau sold a year-round service that was built around the Minnesota Legislature and its biennial sessions. Between sessions the service consisted of information, as requested, on legislation in force in other states as well as in Minnesota, on members and possible members, history of legislation. During sessions it consisted of digests of Bills introduced each day, copies of Bills, Journals, daily status of Bills, etc. One year we digested every law passed, background if any, votes on more important ones, significant votes, etc.; which although artistically successful, proved a losing venture financially. The day I disagreed with my clients -- or a majority of them -- on political and presidential candidates was the beginning of the end for my bureau and I was ultimately forced to sell out. I have done a vast amount of ghost writing, special articles, etc., between

times directing campaigns for individuals, charter and constitutional amendments. In addition I have given many talks to many groups on legislation, on Government, etc., and in 1929 gave a series of lectures at Macalester College, St. Paul."

BACKGROUND OF CASE

One Man -- Wendell Willkie:

The book is a paper-bound volume of forty-eight pages, written by Mr. C. Nelson Sparks. For descriptive purposes, the front cover carries the following legend:

"AN INSIDE STORY WHO'S BEHIND HIM -- HOW HE WON AT PHILADELPHIA --
'ROOMFUL OF MONEY' -- HIS 10 YEARS IN AKBON -- WHERE HIS 'CAMPAIGN ORATORY'
STATEMENT WAS MADE -- HOW HE GOT U.S. BOMBER FOR WORLD TOUR -- WHAT THEY
ARE DOING FOR HIM NOW -- DANGER AHEAD."

The book was published on November 17, 1943, by the Rayner Publishing Company, 17 East 42nd Street, New York, New York, of which one S. C. Rayner is President. It bears a publisher's statement that "We have examined all the documents supporting the statements in 'One Man -- Wendell Willkie' and we are convinced that it is a true record of the facts in the case". The book is patently and admittedly an attack against Wendell L. Willkie as candidate for the office of President of the United States.

The portion of the book pertinent here is contained in the final chapter captioned "Danger Ahead!" It can be quoted without material loss of its full significance by extraction from that which goes before and follows:

"It appears upon sound evidence that Mr. Willkie is going to be helpful to the New Deal in the elimination of certain Southern Democrats out of full favor with the White House. Mr. Hopkins is seeing to it that he is going to be.

"There is the case of Texas.

"Southern politicians look a long way ahead, but not any farther ahead than the New Deal, and the New Deal is looking ahead to knock off Senator Tom Connally from Texas when he comes up for re-election in 1946.

"It tried purging Connally in 1940 but with poor success; he had voted against the court packing bill in the early days of the New Deal and had otherwise made himself unpopular around 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. There were many months when he and the president had no contact at all, and a definite coolness was much in evidence.

"As Chairman of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the White House is forced to depend upon Connally, and while he has gone along, in the main, with the New Deal foreign policy, he is a little bit too 'Nationalistic' and a little bit too inclined to challenge dreams of world-wide Utopia to suit the mind of Harry Hopkins and other members of the 'Palace Guard.'

"So it came to pass for awhile, the New Deal looked with fondness upon Dr. Umphry Lee, president of Southern Methodist University, as a possible candidate against Senator Connally. He and Harry Hopkins have been in correspondence.

"I have a copy of one of those letters, the original is available. It is dated August 17th, 1943, and signed by Harry Hopkins to Dr. Lee. It reads:

"Dear Umphry:

What has been done in the ***** matter? Will you write me please. What developments in the other situation? Willkie is going to be the man, in my opinion, and I can promise you good cooperation from that quarter if you think it would be helpful."

"Obviously, deleted matter, is of personal nature, and the significance of the entire letter is the one line: 'Willkie is going to be the man, in my opinion, and I could promise you good cooperation from that quarter if you think it would be helpful.'

"What can it possibly mean other than:

- (A) The White House not only hopes but thinks that Willkie will be the Republican nominee in 1944, and
- (B) Willkie is prepared to go along with the New Deal in the South where Republican fortunes are inevitably trivial.
- (C) Harry Hopkins is 'sitting pretty' whether the next President is Wendell Willkie or Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"It is noteworthy in recent months, Mr. Willkie has spent much time lining up delegates from the Southern States -- and again it must be mentioned that powerful Democrats can be very influential in such selections. With his right hand he accepts largesse from the New Deal in the form of Willkie-pledged Republicans, and with his left hand encourages the defeat of anti-New Deal Democrats in payment for same."

The book has a list sales price of \$1.00 and Mr. E. C. Rayner, its publisher, when interviewed on January 20, 1944, advised that approximately 5,000 copies were published on November 17, 1943, the original date of issue, but that as of that time, January 20, 1944, approximately 42,000 copies had been published.

The actual printing was done by the Hurley Printing Company, 225 Varick Street, New York City. The law firm of McClain and Thompson, 84 Williams Street, New York, New York, reviewed the manuscript for libelous material before it was printed.

Public Denial of Letter by Mr. Hopkins:

It will be recalled that the book alleged that the subject letter was written in connection with an attempt to "purge" the Honorable Tom Connally from the United States Senate. When such intention on the part of the Administration was denied, Mr. C. Nelson Sparks, on December 25, 1943, released to the press a photographic copy of what purported to be the original letter sent from Mr. Hopkins to Dr. Lee on August 17, 1943. Thereafter, on December 27, 1943, Mr. Harry L. Hopkins issued a public statement that he had seen what was purported to be a photostat of the subject letter and that the letter and the signature were both forgeries. He also included in his public release a statement to the effect that at his request the Federal Bureau of Investigation was undertaking an investigation.

On the same date, December 27, 1943, pursuant to the instructions of Mr. Charles Fahy, Acting Attorney General, representatives of the FBI called upon Mr. C. Nelson Sparks, at his home in Akron, Ohio, and conveyed to him the desire of the Attorney General that the subject letter be turned over by Mr. Sparks to the Attorney General for examination. Mr. Sparks refused to surrender the letter and later, on the same date, issued a statement to the press expressing "perfect confidence in its authenticity". He subsequently advised the press, for publication, that he would "welcome" an investigation by a grand jury and would there produce the letter and submit it for examination.

Grand Jury Investigation Announced:

On January 6, 1944, Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark issued a formal statement to the press, announcing that a Federal Grand Jury in the District of Columbia would begin an investigation of circumstances surrounding publication of the subject letter to determine whether there had been a violation of Section 22-1401, Title 22 of the District of Columbia Code, which makes it a criminal offense to "make or publish a forgery with intent to injure another."

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Before the Grand Jury

George M. Briggs - Interview at the FBI

On January 17, 1964, Mr. Briggs voluntarily called at the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to an invitation to be interviewed concerning this case. It was, of course, necessary to question him in a careful manner inasmuch as at the time of the interview no charges had been made against him, [redacted] had not as yet been made public, the Laboratory examinations reported hereinafter had not been consummated, and what had transpired in the Grand Jury Chambers could not be disclosed. The interview was thus, of necessity, conducted in such a manner as merely to record the statements Briggs voluntarily wished to make. The questioning of Mr. Briggs was carried on in the presence of stenographers who transcribed the results into a thirty-six page statement which was subsequently read, initialed page by page, and sworn to by Mr. Briggs in the presence of a notary as being true. *This statement was initialed by [redacted] + witnessed by [redacted]*

Mr. Briggs first volunteered a brief history of his association with Mr. Sparks which in general paralleled that set forth hereinbefore as received from Mr. Sparks with regard to the political campaign of Mr. Frank Gannett. He then volunteered the fact that although press items had inferred that he had written some of the book "One Man -- Wendell Wilkie" for Mr. Sparks, as a matter of fact his only contribution was his presentation to Mr. Sparks of various bulletins which he had printed and circulated after the Republican national convention in 1940 which were used as documentation and source material for the preparation of the book.

Mr. Briggs was then shown a photographic copy of the subject letter purportedly sent by Mr. Hopkins to Dr. Uphrey Lee. In answer to questions directed to him, he denied that he had anything to do with the preparation or sending of the letter or that he had ever even seen it except sometime in November, 1963, when what he believed was the original was shown him by Mr. Sparks.

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It will be noted that [redacted]

[redacted] in an effort to refresh his memory Mr. Briggs admitted that he was indebted during most of the year 1943 in connection with a house he had bought but subsequently was forced to sell. He emphatically denied, however, [redacted]

[redacted] he also emphatically denied that any such amounts corresponded with any premiums for insurance which he was called upon to pay and in fact emphatically denied that he had had any difficulty whatsoever in connection with the payment of any insurance premiums. [redacted]

Mr. Briggs was also shown original copies of [redacted]

Mr. Briggs was questioned concerning any knowledge he might have of the circumstances to which testimony had been offered regarding the dealings between Dr. Maphrey Lee, Mr. Frank Phillips and Mr. Harold L. Ickes concerning the subject letter. He categorically denied acquaintance with Mr. Frank Phillips or Dr. Maphrey Lee or having had any experiences such as these described in connection with the subject letter.

At the request of the representatives of the FBI who interviewed Mr. Briggs, he executed several pages of script handwriting for comparison purposes; however when requested to furnish samples of handprinting he denied that he knew how to print and stated that he had never learned to print.

He accordingly declined to give any such samples.

Attached for reference purposes is a copy of the thirty-six page statement taken from Mr. George H. Briggs.

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FBI Laboratory Findings:

Reference has been made hereinbefore to the questioned documents presented for examination. The letter purportedly sent by Mr. Harry Hopkins to Dr. Umphrey Lee under date of August 17, 1943, was, of course, of primary concern. This document was thoroughly examined in comparison with the known typewriting of machines in the office of Mr. Harry Hopkins. The paper was compared with paper known to have been available in his office at various widely-spaced times; the physical set-up of the letter was compared with the customary set-up of letters prepared in that office and the signature was compared with the known signature of Mr. Hopkins. A positive determination was made that the letter was not typed on any typewriter which had been used in Mr. Hopkins' office; that the paper and the embossed letterhead thereon were not identical with available paper known to have been in Mr. Hopkins' office; that the physical style of the letter was not identical with that usually followed as a matter of practice in his office; and that the signature appearing on the letter was not the genuine signature of Mr. Harry Hopkins. It was concluded that the subject letter was prepared on Underwood typewriter serial #25229119-11 in the reception room occupied by the secretary of Mr. George H. Briggs in the new Department of the Interior Building. It was also determined that the embossed letterhead on the subject letter was identical with the embossed letterhead on a stock of White House stationery found in the reception room of Mr. George H. Briggs described above.

In addition to

there were secured a number of rough draft messages, some of which have been referred to hereinbefore, which had been prepared on

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the note paper letterhead of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior and delivered to the Western Union Telegraph Company for transmittal. Many of these were addressed to C. Nelson Sparks by George N. Briggs, others were addressed to P. W. Fahey, Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, and related to the payment of insurance premiums and others apparently of a personal nature not related to this case. As stated above Mr. Briggs readily identified a number of the latter while denying those pertinent here. (Signed: G. Mitchell - J. J. Smith)

obtained by Miss Helen Downer & given to Leo C. Runtz.

As indicated above known specimens were secured from the typewriters in the office of Mr. Harry Hopkins, specimens of White House stationery were secured there, and specimens of Mr. Hopkins' known signature were secured. Known specimens were also secured from Underwood typewriter #4282905-11 found on a stand immediately beside the desk of Mr. George N. Briggs in his private office at the new Department of the Interior Building and from the Underwood typewriter serial #85229119-11 found in the reception room to his office there. Specimens were also secured of White House letterhead stationery found in the reception room to Mr. Briggs' office. As indicated hereinbefore Mr. Briggs personally executed for representatives of the FBI script handwriting specimens. It will be recalled that he specifically denied ability to execute hand printing. At Mr. Briggs' office a patent-type pad was found on his desk containing numerous entries practically all of which were in hand print. This pad was secured for specimen purposes. Mr. Harold L. Ickes, through his secretary, made available preliminary rough draft copies of speeches which had been reviewed by Mr. George N. Briggs and on which appeared interlinear corrections and changes known to have been made by Mr. George N. Briggs in hand printing. The United States Civil Service application form referred to hereinbefore as having been executed in October, 1941, before a notary public was secured as a source of known specimens and was found to be filled almost in its entirety in hand printing. The fingerprint card of George N. Briggs taken in connection with his Civil Service Application in 1941 was also found to have been executed almost in its entirety in hand printing. (CS Com. Rec.)

Not to be run by first person & not to be sent. Dept. after app. photo. C.S. made.

Through the use of the above referred to specimens conclusions were reached [redacted]

[redacted] were in almost every instance prepared on the typewriter found beside the desk in the private office of Mr. George N. Briggs and/or bore the hand printing or script writing of Mr. George N. Briggs. Appended hereto for ready reference [redacted]

[redacted] and the allegations made in this case, also shows the conclusions reached with regard to the examinations made by the FBI Laboratory, and collateral evidence secured which definitely links the communications with Geo. N. Briggs despite his denials as earlier set forth.

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(The attached specimens)

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Harry L. Hopkins:

Mr. Hopkins, as stated hereinbefore, publicly denied participation in the preparation or sending of any such communication as the subject letter.

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Dr. Umphrey Lee:

Dr. Lee was interviewed by representatives of the FBI at which time he emphatically denied having received the subject letter and pointed out that had he received such a letter he would not have had any knowledge of the meaning of its contents. He denied acquaintanceship with the other principals involved and categorically denied having had any part in the instant matter. He denied any active participation in politics, either past or contemplated, and specifically denied any intention of becoming a candidate to run against Senator Tom Connally.

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Mr. Frank Phillips:

Mr. Phillips was interviewed by representatives of the FBI and emphatically denied having had any part in the instant case. He stated he was not acquainted with George N. Briggs and had never met him. He advised that he had met the Honorable Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, in connection with his business in the petroleum industry but had never had any contact with him in so far as this case and its political ramifications were concerned. He denied recollection of ever having met Dr. Umphrey Lee. Mr. Phillips also advised that he resides and has his office in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and also has an office in New York, but that he does not have an office or a secretary in Dallas, Texas, and that, therefore, no arrangements could have been made with him to have met George N. Briggs there as had been alleged.

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Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior:

On January 13, 1944.

Secretary Ickes interviewed George N. Briggs at the Department of the Interior concerning this

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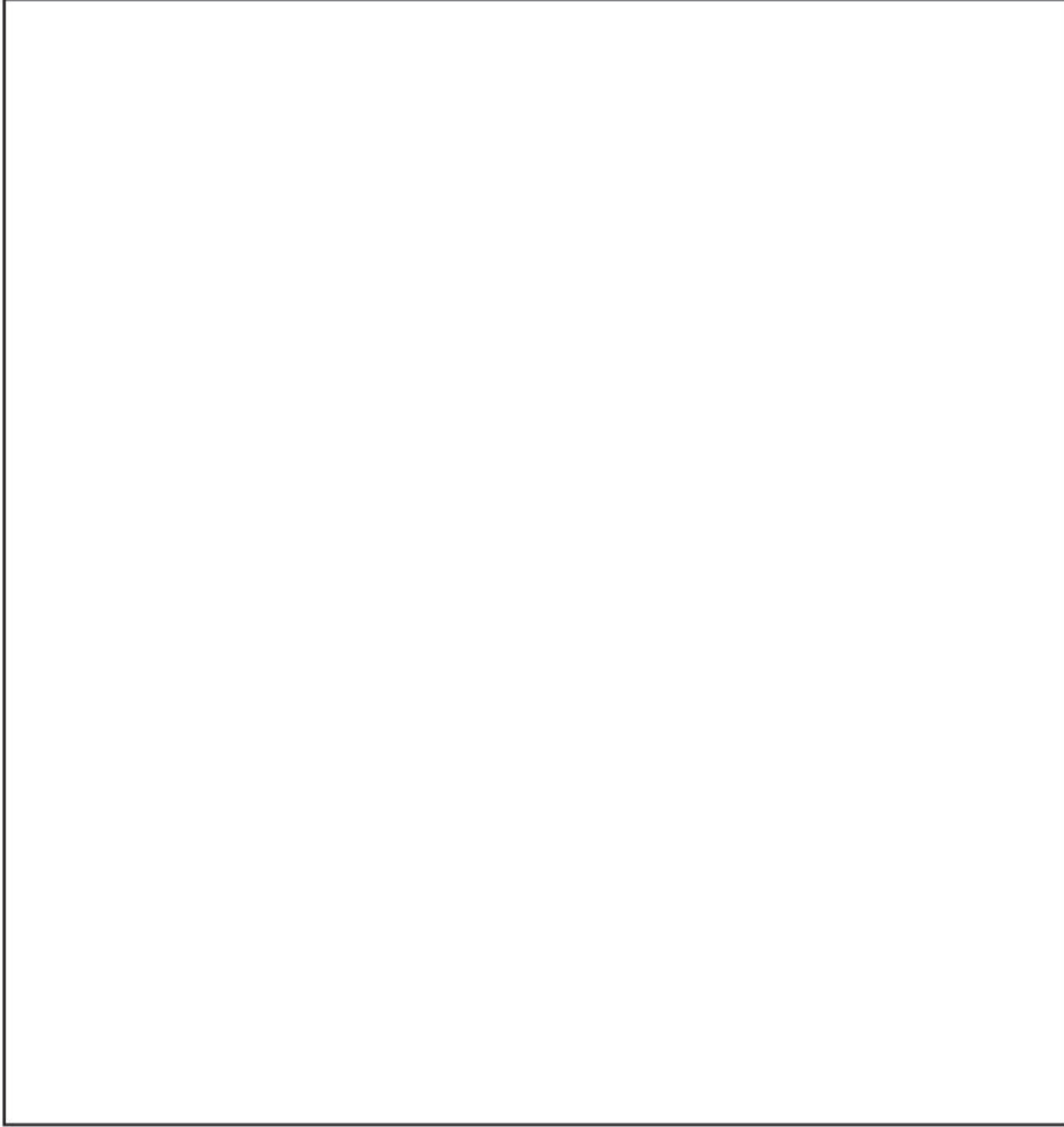
matter. Arrangements had previously been made by the Secretary for the recording of this interview and subsequently the recordings, along with a transcription thereof, were furnished.

In talking to the Secretary Briggs stated that on the preceding night he had received a call from Mowius, Secretary to Senator Nye, who had told him that a lawyer had called and asked him to inform Briggs to call Sparks at New York City. Briggs told Mr. Ickes that when he did call Sparks in accordance with his request Sparks had stated "they're trying to get your boss," while at the same time contending that he could not tell Briggs what had transpired in the course of the Grand Jury hearing which had taken place that day since to do so would place him "in contempt." In answer to a query by Briggs as to who was trying to get Secretary Ickes, Sparks reportedly said "Hopkins and Rosenman."

Secretary Ickes and Briggs discussed the newspaper publicity which had been given the questioned letter and Briggs stated he had first seen the letter some three or four months previously when he had met Sparks and Sparks had shown it to him. He contended at that time that he asked Sparks where he got the letter and Sparks had answered "I got it from a friend of mine in San Antonio." In connection with the allegations which were being made in the paper to the effect that it had been Briggs who furnished the letter to Sparks and had obtained it from an individual in Texas, Briggs stated to the Secretary that he had never been "within gun shot" of Texas.

Briggs admitted to the Secretary that he had seen the manuscript of Sparks' book before it was printed and had reviewed it but maintained that the "Hopkins' letter" was not at that time in it. Briggs further admitted having given to Sparks for the purpose of assisting in the writing of the book some of the news bulletins which he had published when he was in business for himself in Chicago.

No additional information of particular pertinence to this matter appears in the transcript of the recordings made of the interview between Mr. Ickes and Briggs.



Secretaries of George H. Briggs

The following individuals who had been secretaries to Mr. George H. Briggs at the Department of the Interior on separate occasions during the

time he was employed with that Department were interviewed for such information as they might be able to give concerning the instant matter. Their periods of employment as secretaries to Mr. Briggs are shown immediately following their names.

Mrs. Iris Vaden	- 1/1/42 through 10/13/43 with the exception of January to 5/6/43
Miss Wanda Smith	- 10/18/43 to termination of Briggs' employment
Miss Mary Belay	- 10/11/43 through 10/16/43
Miss Flora Erickson	- January, 1943 to May 6, 1943
Miss Pauline Roberts	- One week in September 1943 October 4-11, 1943

The above individuals denied any knowledge of the preparation of the communication herein questioned which purportedly was sent by Mr. Hopkins to Dr. Lee. They likewise denied having prepared or having any knowledge of the preparation of any of the various other communications described herein and which were directed to C. Nelson Sparks by George W. Briggs. These secretaries stated that they never prepared any correspondence for Mr. Briggs except that of a strictly official nature. In this regard they stated that Briggs invariably personally wrote any correspondence which was not official on the typewriter which he had alongside his desk in his private office.

The above-named individuals were questioned ^{for} concerning any knowledge concerning C. Nelson Sparks, Frank Phillips or Dr. Umphrey Lee and all of them denied ever having seen any of these individuals in the office of Mr. Briggs or having ever taken any dictation from Briggs wherein their names were mentioned.

Travel by George N. Briggs to Dallas Disproven

It will be recalled that [redacted]

Identify witnesses

[redacted] In order to determine whether such travel occurred, a check was made of all recognized reputable hotels in the City of Dallas for the pertinent period with the determination that no person by the name of George N. Briggs had been registered during that time. An examination and inquiry was also made at the Department of the Interior to establish the presence of Mr. George N. Briggs in Washington, D. C., between October 4 and October 15, 1943. It will be recalled he allegedly sent a letter to C. Nelson Sparks on October 9, 1943, advising that he had just returned. The annual leave records and the sick leave records of George N. Briggs failed to show any leave having been taken during the instant period. The travel vouchers of the Department of the Interior failed to show that George N.

Briggs was in travel status at that time. The records maintained by Miss Ellen Downs, secretary and receptionist for Mr. Iskes, disclosed that Mr. Briggs actually visited Mr. Iskes in his office on October 7, 8, 13 and 14, 1943. Because of Mr. Briggs' position he was not required to sign or be signed in or out of his office as a record of his presence. However, records are kept in his office of the passage of any items of mail to and from his office for review and approval and his approval of communications is evidenced by the affixing by him of his surname to the file copy of a communication. A search was therefore made of the correspondence files for communications approved during the period between October 4 and October 15, 1943, for comparison against the records maintained in his office of the handling of such communications there, with the result that file copies of communications bearing the autographic surname of George N. Briggs have been matched to show his presence there on October 4, 9, 11, 12, and 15, 1943. Coupled with the records maintained by Miss Downs of actual visits to Mr. Iskes' office, these records account for each work day during this pertinent period except October 5 and 6, 1943, for which no record can be found. It will be noted that given a period of only 2 days a trip could have been made from Washington to Dallas, Texas, and return, only by air travel. Advice has been received from the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice that no check for records of possible air travel should be made until and unless testimony is offered that travel was made by that means to substantiate any claim George N. Briggs might put forward that he actually did make the trip.

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Financial Condition of George N. Briggs:

Plans on Home: It will be recalled that [redacted]

[redacted] This home was located in Falls Church, Virginia, and an inquiry amongst the various lienholders thereon and the realty company involved divulged that it was bought on August 17, 1942, for a total purchase price of \$17,850.00. The sum of \$200.00 was paid down and a second trust was executed to Edwin H. Mesengarten of Rosengarten, Wick and Davis construction firm, Metropolitan Bank Building, Washington, D. C., in the amount of \$4,300.00, half of which was to be due in December, 1942, and the balance in February, 1943.

The balance of the purchase price, with the exception of a sum of \$2,000.00 which was borrowed from one F. H. Weidman, was financed through the Columbia Federal Savings and Loan Company, 716 11th Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. On the \$2,000.00 loan, two notes of \$1,075.00 each were executed, this figure including interest. The first of these was to be paid within thirty days and the second within sixty days. Payments to the Savings and Loan Company, with interest, were to amount to approximately \$150.00 per month.

[redacted] It was also determined that Briggs never met any interest or principal payments of any kind on the loan from Mr. F. H. Weidman, with the result that on February 24, 1943, Weidman signed the notes over to Mr. John J. Keffin, an endorser who in turn filed suit in Fairfax County on that same date for collection. The court records reflected a judgment in this regard against Briggs for \$2,150.00, plus interest and attorneys' fees.

It finally became necessary for Briggs to sell his Falls Church home in order to liquidate the debts against it. This sale was consummated on November 10, 1943, and a copy of the settlement sheet with respect to this transaction shows that the sale cleared Briggs of any indebtedness in connection with the home after a small-cash payment of \$22.45.

Credit Agency Records: Records of the Credit Bureau of Washington, D. C., and Stewart Macdonald Agency reflect the income of Briggs at various figures between \$5,100.00 and \$7,500.00 per year. The credit files of these agencies reflect that on December 12, 1941, a credit report had been received

from St. Paul, Minnesota, which indicated that some of Briggs' accounts in that vicinity had to be collected by attorneys and others were very slow. One account with a department store, which was opened in April, 1941, in the amount of \$115.00, had been afforded no payment whatever and that a dealer account in the amount of \$134.00 in 1935 had to be collected by an attorney. This credit report further reveals that a St. Paul financial institution reported that during the calendar year of 1941, Briggs had a total of fifty-two M.S.P. (not sufficient funds) checks in connection with his account. A report dated November 26, 1943, revealed that seven accounts from St. Paul, Minnesota, had been forwarded to the credit bureau in Arlington, Virginia, for collection. These accounts ranged in amounts from \$21.90 to \$244.76.

The records of the credit agencies show that Briggs was sued on January 18, 1943, by the Midland Hills Country Club for \$119.40, and that he was sued in Washington, D. C., by the Time Loan Company for an account in the amount of \$230.53.

Records Small Claims Court, Municipal Court and District Court, District of Columbia: These records reflect the suits for collection referred to above as revealed by the records of the credit agencies, and revealed in addition a suit filed on May 22, 1943, for collection of an amount still due by one Henry J. Fox, who was an endorser on a promissory note for George M. Briggs. On June 15, 1943, a settlement was arrived at for liquidation of the debt here involved upon payment by Briggs of the sum of \$3,000.00 under certain specified terms. These terms subsequently were not met and on October 25, 1943, a judgment in the amount of \$6,635.56 was returned in favor of the plaintiff, plus attorneys' fees and costs.

The records show that on November 26, 1943, an attachment was served on Harold L. Ickes for garnishment of Briggs' wages and on November 29, 1943, Mr. Ickes returned an answer to certain interrogatories, stating that he was not at the time of service of the return or at any time since indebted to the defendant and that he did not have in his possession or in his charge any goods, chattels or credits of the defendant. Thereafter Briggs was served with a subpoena duces tecum on December 17, 1943, to appear before a certain Notary Public and produce all his books, papers, records and documents for the year prior to December 14, 1943. On December 23, 1943, a stipulation was entered between attorneys for the plaintiff and the defendant to continue this examination in supplementary proceedings. No further entries appeared in the court records at the time they were checked.

State and Federal Court Records, St. Paul, Minnesota: These records reflect a suit filed by the Globe Oil and Refining Company against Briggs in the amount of \$58.28, this amount being for goods sold and delivered by the Company to Briggs between November 16, 1940 and January 3, 1941. This case was dismissed on September 18, 1941, by the attorney for the plaintiff.

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These records also reflect a suit filed July 7, 1942, against Briggs by the State of Minnesota under the Minneapolis Employment and Security Act for wages in the amount of \$250.48, payable by the defendant for employment from May 1, 1937 to November 1, 1940, with six per cent interest from the latter date. A summons and complaint were filed but no disposition is reported and the matter shows as being still in a pending status in the docket.

Mr. J.A. DuVoy, Cashier, Office Manager of
Insurance Payments: ~~Insurance~~ the offices of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee at St. Paul, Minnesota, revealed that Briggs has two policies with that Company, one in the amount of \$15,000.00 and one in the amount of \$5,000.00. Against the \$15,000.00 policy, Briggs has limit loans amounting to \$1,865.39, and premium loans of \$1,152.66. He also has premium loans in the sum of approximately \$500.00 against the \$5,000.00 policy, and in addition is charged with automatic premium loans to the limit of both policies, and at the time of the inquiry had a premium due of \$200.00.

Mr. DuVoy
An informant identified with this insurance company stated that during the time Briggs' policies had been in effect with his company, it was his recollection that on practically every occasion when premiums became due, Briggs had difficulty in meeting them and on some occasions the company had experienced difficulty with the checks he submitted as payment. He produced record information in support of the statement.

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Mr. Gerald W. Movius was interviewed concerning such knowledge as he might have of the subject letter in view of information he may have actually written the final drafts of "One Man -- Wendell Willkie" for Mr. Sparks. Mr. Movius stated he had known Mr. Sparks for about three years, has a great deal of faith in him and has had confidence in what Mr. Sparks has told him. He also advised without solicitation that he, Movius, had written about sixty per cent of the book from manuscripts furnished him by Mr. Sparks, that the latter had written about forty per cent of the book and that Mr. George H. Briggs had written about two thousand words covering the incident with regard to the Stassen-Coles matter which particular portion of the manuscript has nothing to do with the case here under consideration. He advised that during the time the manuscript of the book was in preparation he "kept nagging" Mr. Sparks for the original "Hopkins letter" and that Sparks informed him that George H. Briggs had told him, Sparks, that the document was in the possession of the Secretary of the Interior. Finally, about three weeks prior to the time of the instant interview, on January 20, 1944, he had lunch with C. Nelson Sparks at the Carroll-Arms Hotel, Washington, D. C. and made inquiry of Mr. Sparks concerning the authenticity and origin of the questioned "Hopkins letter". At that time Mr. Sparks took from his coat pocket the subject letter which he stated he had received from George H. Briggs and showed it to Mr. Movius and at that time, he, Movius, noted what appeared to be erasures of pencilled handwriting in the left hand corner. He stated he was advised by Mr. Sparks that Mr. Briggs had told him the erased pencil handwriting was that of Dr. Humphrey Lee and that the words erased were "Dear Frank: What is the meaning of this?" (signed) Humphrey". Mr. Movius stated he believed the "Frank" referred to in the alleged notation was Mr. Frank Phillips of the Phillips Petroleum Corporation. Mr. Movius denied any other knowledge as to the background and origin of the letter.

During a subsequent contact by Agents of the FBI with Mr. Movius, he advised that he was first approached by Mr. Sparks in August, 1943, for the purpose of editing and correcting the manuscript which Sparks had prepared in rough draft form. He stated that the material then in preparation was entirely an interparty (Republican) matter and in no way concerned the Administration or Democratic Party, and that it was not until later that the subject letter came into consideration. Mr. Movius also advised as a matter of possible interest that Mr. Sparks had informed him that the book had cost \$4,000 originally to publish and that in his opinion Mr. Sparks who was "no poor man" was easily able to finance such an undertaking. He also stated that Mr. Sparks had since informed him that sales had more than reimbursed him for his original outlay. He expressed the opinion that Sparks received no collaboration in the publication or financing of the book.

add info volunteered by Movius at WFO

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] was interviewed January 20, 1944, concerning his knowledge of [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] New York City, and advised that early in [redacted] he was introduced to [redacted] and at that time [redacted] he discussed [redacted] He stated he became friendly with [redacted] Inasmuch [redacted] He advised that at that time he knew nothing of [redacted] and although [redacted] mentioned various documents and the letter in question, he paid little or no attention to these explanations because he trusted him and believed in his integrity.

[redacted] advised that an attorney by the name of [redacted] New York City, [redacted]
[redacted]

With reference to [redacted] in answer to [redacted] specific inquiry [redacted] advised that [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] stated he recalled no details as to where these individuals reportedly met or just when [redacted] that, in fact, he just accepted the story at its face value, since his only concern was [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] advised that [redacted]
[redacted]

Upon being questioned concerning the [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] stated he did not know to whom [redacted] could have been referring by the [redacted] sent on to explain that there was [redacted]
[redacted]

specifically stated that

He also was insistant in emphasizing that he had never known

prior to

Mr. Drew Pearson:

In his syndicated column which appeared in the press on January 5, 1944, Mr. Drew Pearson commented on the instant case and concluded by stating "several months ago this column was offered the 'Hopkins letter' but refused to publish it". He was, therefore, interviewed for any information he might have which would be pertinent. Mr. Pearson advised representatives of the FBI that such information as he had was hearsay in nature since the matter had come to him from his assistant, Mr. Thomas McNamara. Mr. Pearson explained that Mr. McNamara had informed him he was offered a letter "some time ago" by Mr. Joseph Leib which was, as he understood it, a carbon copy of a letter having to do with the Hopkins matter here under consideration. He stated that he declined to use the letter and would not in fact have printed it. Had it been an original as he is distrustful of Leib. Mr. Pearson's best recollection as to when Mr. McNamara had told him of Leib's offer concerning the letter was that it was sometime in November, 1943. Mr. Pearson displayed to the FBI representatives a letter addressed to the publisher of "The Washington Post" over the signature of Joseph Leib, which was undated but had been received since recent press articles had appeared stating that Leib had offered the letter to Pearson in which Leib vigorously denied having made any such offer.

Mr. Thomas McNamara:

On February 5, 1944, Mr. McNamara was questioned by representatives of the FBI concerning the details of the above referred to offer of the instant letter for the use of Mr. Drew Pearson by Joseph Leib. It should be noted that Mr. McNamara, although expressing willingness to cooperate, was extremely vague as to specific facts and dates and attributed this to the fact that he sees Movius, Leib and many others daily in the Senate Press Gallery and therefore after a lapse of several months is unable to fix such dates and facts with certainty. Mr. McNamara stated that he was approached approximately six months ago by Joseph Leib at which time Leib told him of a letter which he described as having been written by Mr. Harry Hopkins to Dr. Humphrey Lee with contents to the effect that Dr. Lee was being considered as a senatorial candidate from Texas in the 1946 elections as an opponent of the incumbent, Senator Tom Connally. In further describing this communication

to McManara Leib reportedly mentioned language which also appears in the subject letter as reproduced in the book of Mr. C. Nelson Sparks. Mr. McManara claimed to recall specifically that Leib mentioned to him on that occasion that the letter he was offering contained a statement that Willie "will be the man for the Republicans." Mr. McManara expressed the opinion that Mr. Leib approached him in this matter knowing that he, McManara, is employed by Drew Pearson, writer of the column "Washington Merry-Go-Round" and with the presumption that such a letter would be of value to Mr. Pearson. Mr. McManara further stated that at a later date when the instant matter was receiving wide-spread publicity, shortly after the actual publication of the book, Leib again approached him and when he, McManara, mentioned their earlier conversation, Leib denied ever having discussed the matter with him or ever having said he knew of a letter from Mr. Hopkins to Dr. Lee.

As stated above, Mr. Drew Pearson displayed a letter purportedly written by Mr. Joseph Leib denying any knowledge of the instant letter and articles appearing in the press reporting interviews with Mr. Leib at which time he publicly denied ever having made any such offer as claimed to either Mr. McManara or Mr. Pearson. Advice has been received from the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice that Mr. Joseph Leib was interviewed by attorneys of that Division and he has consequently not been approached by representatives of the FBI.

Indictment of George N. Briggs:

On January 25, 1944, a Federal Grand Jury at Washington, D. C., returned three separate indictments against George N. Briggs:

(1) Mail Fraud

An indictment containing eight separate counts charging that George N. Briggs "did unlawfully, knowingly, feloniously, willfully, devise and intended to devise, a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property from one C. Nelson Sparks and from divers other persons whose names are unknown to the Grand Jury, by means of false and fraudulent representations, pretenses and promises." The individual counts were based

on the alleged misrepresentation by Briggs of the authenticity of the "Hopkins letter" itself through his various representations concerning it and the representations made in each of several other communications from among those introduced by Mr. C. Nelson Sparks as exhibits before the Grand Jury.

(2) False Pretenses

This indictment in a single count charges that George M. Briggs "knowing that one C. Nelson Sparks was engaged in writing and preparing for publication a book concerning one Wendell Wilkie, unlawfully, knowingly, designedly and with intent to defraud feloniously, did falsely pretend and represent to said C. Nelson Sparks that there was in existence an authentic and genuine letter concerning said Wendell Wilkie written by one Harry Hopkins....."

(3) Forgery

This indictment is in two counts. The first charged George M. Briggs with having "unlawfully, wilfully, feloniously and falsely made and forged a certain writing of a private nature, to wit; a letter purporting to be from the said Harry Hopkins to said Umphrey Lee dated August 17, 1943, and purporting to bear the signature of said Harry Hopkins....." with the intent to defraud and to injure C. Nelson Sparks, and the second count charged that George M. Briggs "did utter and publish and attempt to pass as true and genuine the same letter."

MISCELLANEOUS

James D. C. Murray

In the course of observation of George M. Briggs between the date of the institution of the Grand Jury hearings in this case and the return of the indictment, it was noted that he visited the office of Mr. James D. C. Murray, prominent attorney of New York City. [redacted]

[redacted] and since Mr. Murray was noted to have been the only person in that profession visited by Mr. Briggs while in New York City during that period, the following information concerning this attorney is set forth as of interest to the case.

James D. C. Murray, described as a prominent New York criminal lawyer, is reportedly a brother to Archbishop John G. Murray of St. Paul, Minnesota (1934).

In September, 1935, it was reported that an associate of an individual who was a fugitive on a counterfeiting charge had given the address of Attorney James D. C. Murray as a mailing address.

James D. C. Murray was attorney in 1936 for the defendants in the case entitled "Morris Kausch, was; et al; Unknown Subjects; Louis Beckel, Victim; Theft from Interstate Shipment, National Stolen Property Act, Kidnaping." The defendants entered pleas of guilty.

In the same year James D. C. Murray is reported to have received a \$5,000 retainer fee for the defense of one Dr. Anna Swift who was indicted on a White Slave Traffic Act charge.

Also, in 1936 James D. C. Murray was reported to have been employed by the subject of a White Slave Traffic Act case for the purpose of advising her and the various "call girls" residing with her in connection with legal matters having to do apparently with the charges involved in the case under investigation at that time.

In 1938 James D. C. Murray was attorney for one Mitchell Umanewich who had been indicted for the illegal receipt of narcotics. In August, 1938, the defendant was found guilty. An appeal was thereafter carried to the Supreme Court of the United States which denied a writ of certiorari in April, 1939.

In 1939 James D. C. Murray was reported as being very closely associated with Dutch Schultz, New York racketeer. It was also stated at that time that Murray had originally come to New York from Connecticut and had been defending several Waterbury politicians in a fraud case which had been on trial in that city.

In April, 1939, an informant reported that James D. C. Murray had [redacted] to defend Fritz Kuhn at his then forthcoming trial.

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Fritz Kuhn at his trial in November, 1939, testified to having paid \$500 to James D. C. Murray as legal fees.

An article in the Washington Times-Herald for November 21, 1939, brings out that James D. C. Murray and members of his firm had prior to the trial of Kuhn denied ever having received any money from him. In this regard William Luedke is said to have testified that on July 8, 1938, Kuhn gave him \$500 to take to Murray and he, Luedke, had accordingly delivered this sum to Murray's office.

In May and June, 1939, one Eugene McFee was under surveillance by the New York Office of the Bureau because of allegations that he was attempting to "reach" one of the jurors in the jury at that time sitting in the trial of Martin T. Wanton, a United States District Circuit Court of Appeals Judge being tried for misconduct in office. The surveillance showed that McFee on May 23, 1939, entered the office of James D. C. Murray.

In a report dated November 17, 1939, it is stated that Murray had advised an Agent that an attempt was made by J. Richard (Dixie) Davis to have him represent Dutch Schultz. Murray reportedly did not accept the case, but admitted having made one trip to Bridgeport for the purpose of seeing Schultz.

James D. C. Murray was attorney for William Griffin, publisher of the New York Enquirer and one of the originally indicted "seditionists." On October 9, 1942, Casimir P. Palmer reported to the Bureau's New York Office that he had been in Murray's office and the circumstances led him to believe that an attempt was being made to "buy his testimony." Nothing further in this regard is reflected. Palmer has frequently furnished information to the Bureau which has been found unreliable.

On October 5, 1942, Casimir Palmer was alleged by a confidential informant to have stated that in his opinion "Murray, Griffin, Dunn, et al," undoubtedly were hooked up with the Christian Front and the Irish Republican Army, and further that he believed this particularly because his introduction to Griffin's "crowd" was through another lawyer he knew to be identified with the Christian Front activities. He named this other lawyer as Charles D. Scanlon.

Mrs. Ruth Briggs

This individual is the sister-in-law of George N. Briggs. She is the widow of Clare Briggs, the noted cartoonist. It was determined that following the appearance of the name of George N. Briggs in the press as the writer of the

various letters to C. Nelson Sparks, Mr. Briggs, allegedly in an effort to evade representatives of the press, left his personal residence at 3034 South Buchanan Street, Arlington, Virginia and took up residence for several days with this sister-in-law. It has also been determined [redacted]

[redacted] that she has afforded him moderate financial assistance since the Grand Jury hearings in this case began. [redacted]

[redacted] therefore, would appear to be only sufficient for current living expenses at the most.

Mr. Glenn Briggs

While in New York on January 20 and 21, 1944, Mr. George N. Briggs was observed to be in fairly constant company of an individual subsequently identified as Mr. Glenn Briggs, and they spent considerable time together at 37 West 51st Street, New York City, which is the address of the Bridge and Backgammon Club. It was thereafter learned that Glenn Briggs and Mrs. Mary Jane Mason are associated in the operation of that club. An investigation into their activities and finances, including a check of their bank records, failed to disclose, however, that either is active in politics or that they have acted as intermediaries between George N. Briggs and persons who might logically have been associated with George N. Briggs in the activities involved in this case. Monetary transfers disclosed in their bank accounts would not be of sufficient size to have pertinence to this case.

Enclosures (3)

CORRELATION OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE CASE OF C. NELSON SPARKS

AND GEORGE N. BRIGGS

Pertinent telephone numbers listed herein:

Falls Church 1961-W	- Falls Church, Virginia residence of George N. Briggs
Temple 8038	- Fairlington, Virginia residence of George N. Briggs
Republic 1820, Extension 5064	- Office of George N. Briggs at Department of the Interior
Murray Hill 43900	- Tudor Hotel, New York City, usual New York City residence of C. Nelson Sparks
University 7137	- Akron, Ohio residence of C. Nelson Sparks

161. 205

COLLATERAL EVIDENCE, OR
LABORATORY EXAMINATION

*Items in the foregoing preceded by an asterisk represent those concerning which George N. Briggs was questioned at the time of his interview at the Federal Bureau of Investigation on January 17, 1944, and concerning which he denied knowledge as reflected in the signed statement taken at that time. The item under date of October 21, 1945 preceded by an asterisk was denied as mentioned by George N. Briggs in so far as knowledge of the content of this item is concerned, although he stated he could not deny that the signature thereon was genuine.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

Supplemental
Hours